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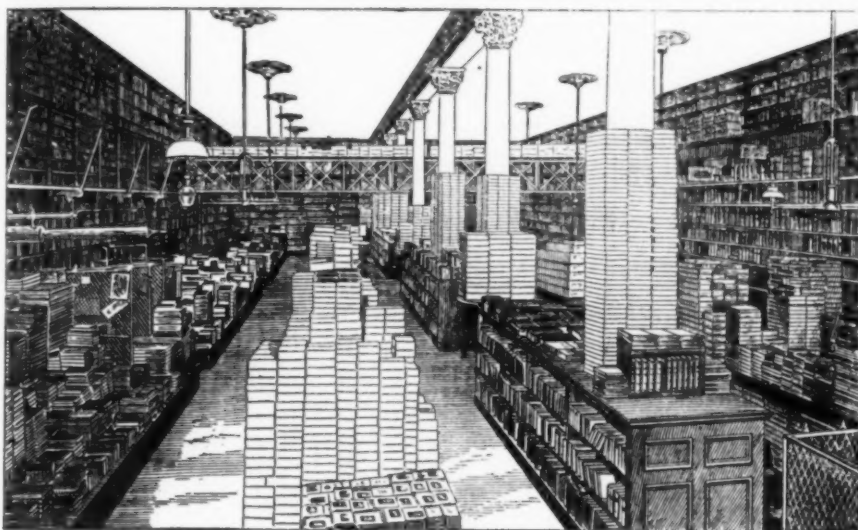
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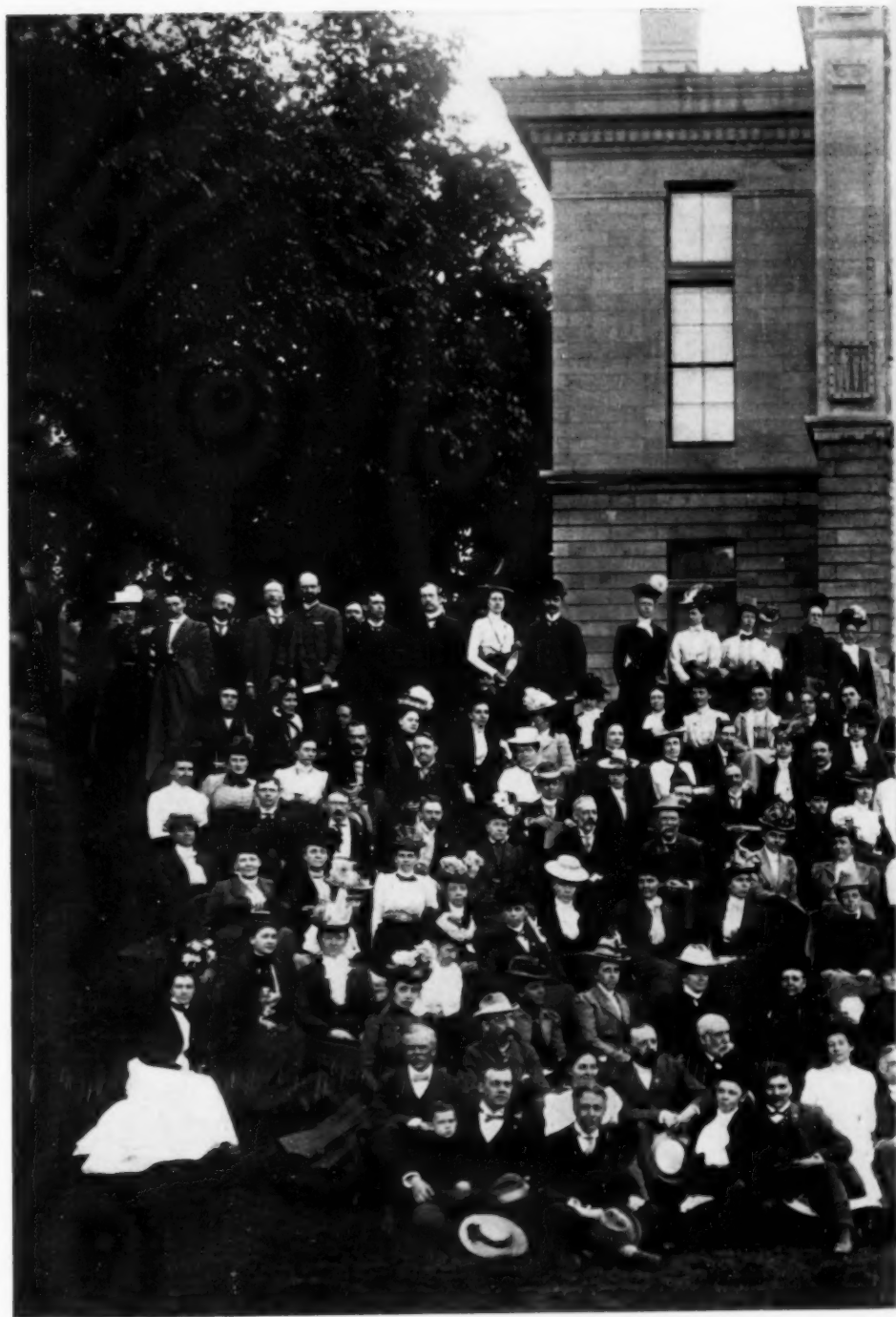
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AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



AT M-GILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, JUNE 9, 1900.

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No. 6

THE conference at Montreal was successful in every way, even beyond expectation, and the number present, reaching 450, would seem phenomenal except for the fact that the Association, as the representative of the onward rush of the library movement, grows steadily beyond calculation. The summary elsewhere will give a preliminary taste of the wealth of papers and discussions, and will, we trust, whet the interest of absent members of the A. L. A. up to a fixed determination to be present at the conference next year. The new constitution was adopted by ratification of the action of the Atlanta conference early in the meeting, and most of the business was conducted under it by the council and by the executive board, freeing the Association proper for consideration of papers and for general discussion more than has ever before been the case. The members of the council and the officers who also constituted the executive board and were *ex officio* members of council, were kept at work, indeed, 25 hours out of the 24. While most of the sessions were practically section meetings, the attendance was so large, and the arrangement of meetings so well made, that what seemed really an Association meeting discussed library work with children most usefully, while the college and reference librarians were meeting separately, with good attendance, elsewhere. Never before had there been such a post-conference excursion, for two large steamers were required to carry the 250 or more who joined in the postscript program, and this, as usual, became the opportunity for much discussion and work on the part of the boards and committees toward planning the next year's work.

THE most practically useful outcome of the conference may be the development of the plan for co-operative printed cards, which has been so long in the air. The Co-operation Committee this year gave itself chiefly to the discussion of this specific question, and the contributions on this topic presented at the meeting by the several members of the committee—Mr. Richardson, Mr. Lane, Mr. Andrews, and Miss Kroeger—

were so thoroughly worked out in every detail that for the first time the project assumed really practicable form. To the surprise of all more than a dozen libraries were found willing to take part as guarantors of the proposed scheme—so far as their representatives present could speak for them—and over 50 expressed desire to become subscribers to such cards, in whole or in part, the prospect of a selection at pleasure of such cards as might be wanted greatly stimulating interest in the plan. This unexpected support of the committee's working plan at once put a different face on the question, and the Publishing Board, to which the matter was referred, has already taken steps to work out a method of publication. If the great burden and expense of cataloging, now done distributively in hundreds of libraries, can be concentrated as proposed, with one central bureau doing work for all in better shape and at less expense, a vast amount of money now wasted in duplication will be saved, freeing no small sum in each library for purchase of new books and for the better remuneration of the staff, while the demand for trained library service will certainly safeguard those now engaged in cataloging from any diminution of demand in their special field. How large and important this class of library workers has come to be and how multifarious and difficult the questions with which they have to deal, were shown in the most interesting "round table" held on cataloging and classification, the success of which has led to the establishment of a Catalog Section of the Association.

WHAT was practically a new auxiliary of the American Library Association was formed by the Canadian brethren in the organization of the Canadian Library Association, it being understood that the broad term "American" covered both sides of the boundary line, and that the new association would classify itself, as it were, with the several state associations. Canadian hospitality proved boundless, and one of the most interesting features of the conference was the morning devoted to Cana-

dian topics, when, in the statistical paper presented by Mr. Bain regarding Canadian libraries, the admirable review of Canadian literature given by Dr. Dawson, and other papers, the visiting librarians were made acquainted with progress on the other side of the line. Altogether this international meeting, as in one sense it was, proved one of the great steps forward in the history of the Association.

THE extraordinary and unfortunate methods used by those engaged in the commercial enterprise of selling sets of the "Messages and papers of the Presidents" in the edition printed from the duplicate plates given by Congress to Representative Richardson, the editor of the series, developed finally something so near a scandal that in accordance with a resolution of the Senate, April 19, 1900, the Committee on Printing made an investigation and prompt report. The report includes a reprint of the circulars and instructions to agents, which stand out even among the extraordinary subscription literature of this kind. The report is to the effect that Congress acted unwisely in permitting duplication of this Government publication, and that the methods adopted for the sale of the private edition were most questionable—and this is the upshot of the whole matter. It is unfortunate that after the attention of two such men as Mr. Richardson and Mr. Spofford had been again and again called to the almost scandalous methods for which they were naturally held responsible, there had not been a prompt reversal of the methods employed. Mr. Spofford's name was exploited as general secretary of the Committee on Distribution, and as has been frequently pointed out in the JOURNAL, this has done serious harm. It has been proposed to checkmate the speculation by printing a huge Government edition, to be generally distributed, but this would be a remedy worse than the original evil. The episode is probably closed, unless the promoters of the private enterprise continue to mislead the public by continuing the methods hitherto adopted.

Communications.

TYPEWRITERS IN LIBRARIES.

IN 1897 the Grosvenor Library adopted the Williams typewriter for writing all cards for the main library catalog. Over 50,000 cards have been written with these machines, and the results have been entirely satisfactory. The

Williams machine has the advantage of writing directly from the face of metal type without the intervention of a ribbon. Its simple construction and the ease with which it is handled are also in its favor. Its small cylinder and the fact that it cannot write near the top of the card, are against it. The first difficulty is but slight and has been overcome by rolling the cards backwards, after writing, with a specially prepared roller. This flattens them perfectly and takes but a moment's time. To obviate the second difficulty we have adopted a special card, made one-fourth of an inch taller than the Library Bureau standard, and five-eighths of an inch taller than the card used in our catalog. After the card is written, the call number of the book, the author's name, and a brief title, is written by hand on the top upper edge of the card and the top of the card is then cut off with a card cutter. These slips, five-eighths of an inch in width, are afterward collated by class number, and, when filled in a box, make a perfect shelf list, always complete and up to date. The cutting of the card, of course, consumes a little time, but this is more than compensated by the simultaneous preparation of the shelf list.

A special catalog for the Medical Department has been written on a Smith-Premier typewriter with the latest card attachment. This machine writes a very neat card and gives good satisfaction. It has several points of superiority over the Williams machine, but this is counterbalanced by inferiority in other respects. On the whole we have no wish to change from the Williams to the Smith-Premier typewriter for the main catalog. E. P. VAN DUZEE.

GROSVENOR LIBRARY, {
Buffalo, N. Y. }

QUESTIONS WANTED CONCERNING MAPS.

I HAVE been requested by several members of the New York Library Club and others to draw up some working notes concerning the storing, preservation, and cataloging of maps, but have hesitated to do so, as it has not appeared clear to me on what particular detail information is needed. If I might, without offence, assume absolute ignorance of the subject, on the part of those suggesting this information, or if they would themselves oblige me with a short catechism as to what they think they need, I might better be able to formulate a series of remarks which would be generally acceptable. One lady said she could propound at least 50 questions to which she would like replies. If that be the general condition of the average librarian's mind on this interesting but much neglected department of knowledge, it is quite possible that 10 or a dozen applications equally (to me apparently) exhaustive would enable me to place this subject on a firmer base.

If the matter seems of sufficient interest to bring to the attention of librarians I shall feel great pleasure in doing my best to meet the requirements expressed. THOMAS LETTS.

N. Y. PUBLIC LIBRARY, {
Lenox Library Building, New York City. }

THE INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE, BRUSSELS.

BY R. R. BOWKER.

THE little states of Switzerland and Belgium do a distinctive service to the world at large as a neutral ground for enterprises or organizations of international relation. Thus, Switzerland furnishes a central office for the postal service of the world and for the international copyright relations developed under the Berne convention. Belgium is the center of the International Sleeping Car Co., which furnishes through service all over the European continent and in North Africa, and Brussels is also the home of perhaps the most important enterprise in international bibliography.

One of the most interesting architectural features of "little Paris," as Brussels is often called, is the group, not far from the center of the city, making up the Rue de Musée, including the Royal Library and the Royal Galleries of ancient and of modern paintings. These fireproof buildings house rich treasures, and among them is the remarkable "repertory" of the Institut de Bibliographie, whose rooms are to be found not in the central or library building, but in the adjacent museum of modern paintings. The location indicates the fact that the Institut is a state-supported institution, funds for its maintenance coming from the royal purse, although it has a membership of individuals, associations, and institutions interested in bibliography, paying a fee of 10 francs a year and receiving for that the bulletin published periodically by the Institut, its "Annuaire," usually included in the bulletins, and the benefit in other respects of the work of the Institut. The Institut was organized in connection with the Bibliographical Congress, held in Brussels in 1895, and the main work of the office is the establishment of a universal bibliographical repertory with the co-operation of scientific institutions in all countries.

Ascending from the great gallery by a winding stair, the visitor presently finds himself in a long room occupied through the middle by a huge card catalog case, and along its sides by the desks of the staff of compilers. In this case is arranged the repertory, comprising in its two parts, a subject-classification on the decimal system and an alphabet by authors,

over 3,000,000 cards indexing the book and periodical literature, particularly of the 19th century, of all countries. Of these approximately 2,000,000 are titles of articles in periodicals, and 1,000,000 of books. A mauve card is used in the author alphabet for Belgian publications, and a white card for those of other countries, a blue card that was sometimes used for books in English being now discontinued. The mauve cards are intended to form a general catalog of Belgian libraries, a number on the card designating the library in which the book is to be sought, and it is hoped that this feature will by its example induce other countries to establish a like general bibliography in some central depository in affiliation with this for Belgium. The repertory includes also a topographical bibliography, giving all that has been written about a country, from any point of view, under the name of the country.

The detailed character of this catalog is illustrated by the fact that there are 6000 cards relating to Aristotle alone. The classification is carried to a very minute degree, with the intention of affording to any specialist exact information as to the material in his specialty, and it is part of the plan of the Institut to furnish duplicates of these cards on any special subject to other libraries or to students at a price of 10 centimes (2 cents) per card, or 20 francs (\$4) per thousand. There is in plan also the printing of special subjects, for which there are about 25 subscriptions so far received, each title to be printed by author and by subject at a price of 10 francs (\$2) per thousand printed cards. It is intended to print perhaps from 5000 to 6000 entries a year, covering new publications, at a cost of 50 to 60 francs (\$10-\$12) for a single entry, or 100 to 120 francs (\$20-\$24) for a double entry by author and subject.

The central idea of this repertory is that in the ultimate future a great library will have not only its own card catalog of books and periodicals, to be found within its own walls, but a general or universal repertory showing what is to be found in other libraries. It is this last which the Institut Bibliographique proposes to furnish from a central office as fast

and as far as its resources and the demands of libraries throughout the world justify. One of these days it is hoped that the repertory room will be as much a feature of a great library as a catalog room, if the prophecies of the projectors of the Institut are fulfilled. The Institut is also accumulating a bibliographical library, shelved in the same room, for which there is a card catalog by author and title, by accession number, and by subject according to the decimal classification. It is intended that this bibliographical library and its inventory, or catalog, shall be developed to be as internationally complete as it can be made.

Besides the preparation of this repertory the Institut has a second object, in promoting the general adoption and the extension into minute detail of subject of the decimal system according to the Dewey classification. In this direction it has published a number of pamphlets taking up special divisions of the Dewey classification and working them out with great carefulness of detail by the help of skilled experts in the several branches. If a railroad man wants to find what has been printed about so small a specialty as paper car wheels, he will find a number for that minute subdivision and literature under that classification in the drawer of the repertory so numbered. These special lists as so far published include geography; the social sciences and law; medical sciences; astronomy; photography; railway science, by P. Weissenbruch; physical sciences; geology; anthropology, by the Societa Italiana d'Anthropologia of Florence; electro-therapy, X-rays, etc., published in the *Annales d'Electrologie* of Paris; iconography, by J. Vallot of the Musée de Photographie Documentaire of Paris; physiology, by the Société de Biologie of Paris; and elaborate developments of the classification for zoölogy, physiology, and anatomy prepared and issued by the Concilium Bibliographicum of Zurich. Within the present year there has been added to the material of the repertory the *Bibliographia Medica*, edited by Drs. Richet and Potain, and issued by the Institut de Bibliographie of Paris, which utilizes the decimal classification for its record, being a development of the *Index Medicus*.

The general tables and system of the decimal classification have also been translated with introductions and explanations into French, German, Italian, and Spanish by the Institut or by interested co-workers, and a recent publication of the Institut (No. 25) schedules the individual developments of the decimal system in various directions.

At the Paris Exposition the Institut Bibliographique is fully represented, and in a novel way. At the time of the several international congresses which are to take place one after another during the period of the Exposition, it exhibits in a room allotted for that purpose adjoining the conference hall its repertory in the special subject of the congress, replacing this portion of the repertory with other portions as the fields of the conference change from week to week. Thus it is hoped to interest all classes of scientists and scholars in this great bibliographical enterprise, and to acquaint them with the facilities which the Institut affords for informing them as to the literature of their specific subjects.

The guiding spirit of all this work is M. Paul Otlet, an advocate of Brussels, who gives all his spare time and an overflowing enthusiasm to his pet avocation. Not Mr. Dewey himself is so enthusiastic an advocate of the Dewey decimal classification as M. Otlet, and bibliography could have no more devoted a worshipper at its shrine. His work is supported by fellow-citizens of Brussels who serve with him on the board, and he is assisted by a staff of compilers who are kept busily at work.

In view of a general impression that this organization was rather one existing on paper than a practical working office, it has seemed worth while to make this statement of its purposes and work from an actual visit to its office in the summer of 1899. American librarians visiting Paris should not fail to visit the bibliographical exhibit in connection with the congresses, and if they can find time for a little run to Brussels they will be received most cordially and shown most completely the interesting work which M. Otlet and his colleagues are doing there.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE STATE.*

BY WORTHINGTON C. FORD, *Boston Public Library.*

WE have all heard of the small boy who nearly split his throat in singing "I want to be an angel," but who privately confided to his teacher that he would prefer to be captain of a canal boat. This difference between public and private profession offers food for thought. I wish to touch upon only one phase, how far may the state advantageously intervene in influencing the choice of a profession? To what extent may the state offer opportunities for making the best use of that which is in us? Does a public library stand among those functions of a state which make or hold such opportunities?

The theory underlying a democratic government is that every man should be equal in his opportunities—not that every man should be a millionaire, a city boss, or a social leader, but that every man should be in a position where that which is best and strongest in him may find activity. This was the idea that was present when the Constitution was framed. "The doctrines of Europe were," wrote Jefferson, "that men in numerous associations cannot be restrained within the limits of order and justice but by forces physical and moral wielded over them by authorities independent of their will. Hence their organization of kings, hereditary nobles, and priests. Still further to constrain the brute force of the people, they deem it necessary to keep them down by hard labor, poverty, and ignorance, and to take from them, as from bees, so much of their earnings as that unremitting labor shall be necessary to obtain a sufficient surplus barely to sustain a scanty and miserable life. And these earnings they apply to maintain their privileged orders in splendor and idleness, to fascinate the eyes of the people, and excite in them a humble adoration and submission, as to an order of superior beings." The opposite idea was, he thought, embodied in the Constitution. Man was a rational animal, endowed by nature with rights, and with an innate sense of justice. He could be restrained from wrong and protected in right by moderate powers, confided to persons of his

own choice, and held to their duties by dependence on his own will. As wisdom and virtue were not hereditary the complicated organization of kings, nobles, and priests was not the wisest or best to effect the happiness of associated man. "We believed," he continued, "that men, enjoying in ease and security the full fruits of their own industry, enlisted by all their interests on the side of law and order, habituated to think for themselves and to follow their reason as their guide, would be more easily and safely governed than with minds nourished in error, and vitiated and debased, as in Europe, by ignorance, indigence, and oppression."

It would carry us too far afield to undertake to measure the application of this theory, to test whether, on the whole, it has made angels or captains of canal boats. The theory of government often differs much from the art, and it would be easy to show startling deviations from the rosy views of the founders. Short as has been the experience of the United States, and trying as have been some of the incidents, failure has not been absent any more than variety; and surprises have followed the most carefully prepared measures. The interests of individuals or factions have interfered. The supremacy of the slave power was based and maintained upon selfishness; and the too eager pursuit of that selfishness led to the downfall of the doctrine of states rights. Within the memory of men still living the support of slavery has been thorough and forceful. In 1852, Harper, of South Carolina, said before a Society for the Advancement of Learning: "The institution of slavery is a principal cause of civilization. It is as much the order of nature that men should enslave each other as that other animals should prey upon each other." And he scoffed at the idea of educating a slave. "Would you do a benefit to the horse or the ox by giving him a cultivated understanding or fine feelings." He found an echo among many at the north. It required a civil war to determine that question: and it required years of experimenting and blundering to reach a conviction that the south must work out its own political and economic salva-

* Address delivered at Boston Public Library, April 2, 1900.

tion. More than a generation has passed ere it is seen that not in politics lies the solution of the negro question, but in the thrifty small farmer, and in the efforts of such men as Booker T. Washington, who preaches that the negro must make his own future.

To-day the country faces another question big with possibilities for good and for ill. Are we to hold at arm's length peoples, conquered or purchased, and deny them any privileges save that of feeding our industries and producing for our commerce? Is a Spanish West-Indian or a Philippino to be exploited solely on a cash basis? Are millions of dependents, alien and non-absorbable, to be slowly and painfully crushed and transmuted into dollars for the benefit of greed? Further, is corruption in public life, leading to class legislation, to continue until the combinations, whether of capital or of labor, dependent upon legislation for their ability to exist at the cost of others, break down under their own grasping at monopoly? The outcry against trusts is a symptom of economic disorder, and, however ignorant or based upon feeling a large part of it is, points to an evil calling for correction. If the state has thus far proved powerless it is because there is a good reason for combinations of capital and the union of many concerns under one management. The offences against society, laid at the doors of the trusts, are yet to be isolated, defined, and met. If injustice is done, if inequality of condition is unnecessarily created, if markets are manipulated through existing laws or the absence of proper regulations—these are questions to be met, and it depends upon ourselves to solve them properly. "Men, as well as women," says Mill, "do not require political rights in order that they may govern, but in order that they may not be misgoverned." A change in methods of production or manufacture makes itself felt for a time in a narrowing of opportunity, and the state may intervene to prevent undue pressure through laws which favor one industry or class at the expense of other industries or classes. Not to create opportunity, however, for that means making unnecessary work—a wasteful application of social force. Equality before the law implies equal laws.

Our problems of state change, and our standards seem to change with them. From stage-coach to steam was a jump, but it is hinted that

even steam has had its day for land transportation, and electricity will take its place. These changes also mark the changes in social action. The immensely more complex problems of to-day demand the methods of electricity, and man has passed from the state of a social unit, capable, as was thought, of being studied in isolation, into that of a social molecule useful only in combination with others of his kind. The economic development has been enormous, and so rapidly accomplished as to leave us still in doubt as to its final outcome. The prizes offered by a commercial career are tempting our young men to enter business, and the highest trained natural faculty reaps rewards which seem stupendous even to ourselves who have come to look upon millions with much the same indifference as our fathers looked upon thousands. Has the art of government kept pace with this development? It is not necessary to give instances in state and national legislation where private interests have colored, if not dominated, the law.

The individual makes his own place in society—given a fair opening. Character is the factor. In nature there is infinite variety; yet each species is in natural conditions inexorably definite in form and functions. Man may interfere and double the petals of a rose or pink; he may produce new varieties in or out of season, and he may boast of his successes in hot-house cultures. Yet he has never altered the essential character of a rose or of a pink; and with his present knowledge he cannot so alter it. The nature of man is bound by just such limitations. The boy entering one of the higher schools is a bundle of prejudices—a combination of inherited tendencies and faculties, home influences and his general surroundings. No hot-house culture has altered his real nature, and there is much more of the past than of the present controlling his moods and nerve fibre. Hundreds of generations behind him are exerting their influences, and have implanted tendencies which no education can modify. If a radical attempt is made forcibly to change his character, a permanent twist is given which produces strange and unmoral effects. It has been noted in France where a highly centralized system of state education is imposed, that the conflict between modern ideas taught in schools and home training and social environment is apt to produce an

incurable moral vacillation and a weakening of character. May not nihilism in Russia, socialism in Germany, and the prevalence of immorality among the graduates of French schools, be in a measure attributed to this state interference with natural conditions? The gardener develops the blossom in beauty, but at the expense of the fruit. The law of conservation of energy is absolute, and what is over-expended in one direction must be taken from force which would be expended in another line.

Yet too much efficacy may be attributed to heredity. Even in the animal world there are widely varying degrees of inherited action and instinct. Some, apparently without suggestion, begin at once to do just what their parents have done for centuries. To others more or less training is essential; it is a development of latent instincts, requiring an occasion to be called into action. The vertebrates are of this type, and man must be carefully nursed through years of helplessness, and trained through years of partial power into an ability to use the aptitudes which promise the best results. The function of education is to offer the largest possibilities for discovering and strengthening these aptitudes. The public schools do this in a half effective manner, treating large classes of pupils with the same acids, to bite into the forming brain certain scratches crudely and uniformly made by the machine of the educational system. Differences in taste, differences in abilities, differences in surroundings, count for little. Into the huge hoppers of the schools are dumped annually tens of thousands of children and made to pass through sieves of one size of mesh. Is it strange that the results do not justify the expectations?

By the time the youth has left the public schools he has some method, less learning, and faces a necessity of choosing his calling in life. In the university he finds all paths open to him; but only a small part of the young of a community pass through a university. The larger number are obliged to go into the world for a living, and it is to this number a public library appeals. Reading maketh a full man; it does much more. It offers to every user the taste of learning and the chance of finding some one branch which will appeal strongly to his taste. It exerts a mode of selection in which each reader finds his liking and natural bent.

It is not claimed that the highest knowledge

can thus be obtained by the free use of a library. The boy who has knocked around among machinery is a better practical mechanic than one who has pored over patent office reports; the machine speaks a language to him, and he understands its every whim and change. The boy of the street has certain qualities developed which would appear like a sixth sense suddenly imposed upon one carefully nurtured at home and in the university. It would seem such a novelty as to amount to a deformity and difficult to apply. The boy or man who has, in the use of books, obtained a liking or a facility, has obtained a pleasure and aid to living denied to one who looks upon action as the highest function of life and spends a life in dollar making and in breeding dollar makers. If any of you have read such stories of sordid poverty as Morrison's "Tales of mean streets," or "Child of the Jago," in which the crushing effect of squalid surroundings kills and leaves only a small fraction of refinable matter, the unreality of "Stalky and Company" becomes a matter of wonder. The story of frightful misery and dreadful sadness is incomparably more telling than the schoolboy pranks of slangy, boisterous, and not very real Stalky and Company. The chances are that Sanford and Merton never became good citizens; the boy of the truly good books died at too early an age and in too much odor of sanctity to show what he could be in middle and late life. The presumption is that Stalky and his companions, out of fiction, would be occupied in certain unprofitable labor contracts under state supervision, dressed in state clothes, after a short term in a House of Correction. The human wreckage every year is fearful, and more destructive than any war. Seton-Thompson asserts that no wild animal in nature ever dies a natural death. Of certain ranges of city life the same assertion may be made. Driftwood has its uses; but there is no room for human driftwood, and every step taken to reduce its proportion is so much gained for good.

The state cannot make learned men by legislation; nor moral men, nor even good men; but it can give every one an opportunity to make the best of his faculties, and may offer the means of training ability. In the matter of wealth, the state should not give to any man his living unless helpless or unless full return is made by him; but the state owes him protec-

tion for the property he has rightly obtained and saved, and in giving him such protection it assures the full and free use of that property in any manner not injurious to society or to the rights of another person. So in other lines, the state need not give him a university education; but it offers to all an opportunity to obtain a university education, provided due effort is made and a reasonable share of ability is shown by the user of this opportunity.

The limits between education and library use become evident when force or compulsion is considered. For its own safety the state assumes that a man who can read, write, and do sums, is on the road to becoming a better citizen than a man who can do none of these things. Boys and girls are compelled, for their own good, to pass a certain time in the schools. It is an offence at law for a parent to allow his child to grow up absolutely uneducated. No one has ever proposed that the use of a library should be made compulsory, and no one ever will. Imagine the consequences of obliging all children of a certain age to read *Oliver Optic*; or *Rudyard Kipling*, or even *Robinson Crusoe*, though what child has not read the last, when an opportunity has been given? Begin, said Mirabeau, with the babe in the cradle—"teach him, for his first word, to lisp the name of Washington!" Good advice in theory, but nine out of ten of the children would die of apoplexy in the attempt. So the enforced use of reading would result in distortion of mind as well as body. Voluntary is the proper system to be employed. The state establishes libraries and maintains them as public libraries, but beyond that its action should not extend.

A danger lies in applying the methods of a school to a library and its contents. The good little boy is given a penny or a stick of candy for learning his lessons. If he dislikes figures, his attention is purchased; if he loathes grammar (and who does not?), he is paid for the effort of mastering a rule he will never apply in the real use of language. It is safe to believe that when of voting age he will still look for the material stimulus to action and be willing to have a price for performing his public duty. He has in him the qualities of a ward heeler and professional politician. "The poorer the tea, the better the chromo," was the old saying; and the gift enterprise applied to reading is apt to be disastrous. The ability to select

good reading is not instinctive; but, on the other hand, it cannot be taught. No one is in a position to say what is and what is not good literature. To undertake to impose uniformity is wrong, and the methods of the Salvation Army are as legitimate in their sphere as the genuflections and silent prayer in orthodox temples. No city was ever reformed by Sunday-school books, or issues from a reform club, any more than our associated charities have abolished poverty, or our state institutions have made pauperism a thing of the past. Good work as they have done, it must be *Chimmie Fadden* and his speech who will reach those who stand in need of modification, for reformation is out of the question. We can, however, eagerly accept the cheerful optimism of John Stuart Mill, who held that "all the grand sources of human suffering are in a great degree, many of them almost entirely, conquerable by human care and effort."

The West End cannot be obliterated by sprinkling rose water over it; nor can an anarchist be changed (however much improved) by giving him a bath and clean linen. To close one's eyes to certain conditions because they are unpleasant or apt to awaken disagreeable impressions is not the means of curing evils. No battle was ever won by continually running away from the enemy. The Chartists were threatening, but they were quieted by meeting them more than half way. German socialism has been reduced to a harmless and rather wholesome activity by studying its demands and granting a part. In this country recall the different social trials of recent years: the grange movement, the negro problem, the greenback or inflation craze, the silver agitation, and the labor strikes. Some have been settled; some were temporary phases of discontent and died naturally; and some are still with us. In no instance could they have been lightly passed over, allowed to drift without comprehending their motives and extent, or neglected with eyes shut and scented handkerchief to the nose.

It will not do to hold up one's hands in holy horror at what seems to us social heresy and political madness. These phases must be studied, and the conditions upon which they are based questioned and put on trial. The criminal offers as interesting a problem as the general of industry; the millionaire is no more of a social unit than the day laborer or pauper:

"Sole estate his sire bequeathed
(Hapless sire to hapless son),
Was the wailing song he breathed,
And his chain when life was done."

And the commonplaces of smug respectability are as much a social force as the vagaries of a beggar, a genius, a madman, or a librarian. The people speak often in a strange language and in strange times; but it is a voice always worthy of being heard. It cries out its needs and its desires, and suggests what it believes to be reforms and improvements. It suffers from directness of speech and the fervidness of a keenly felt but half understood cause; and it has needs which can hardly be expressed, and await the men who will "interpret and articulate its dumb deep want." It is in the Public Library that the record of its pleas and complaints should be accumulated and find as ready a hearing as the history of the past and the policies of factions and parties long since dead. Herr Most, Eugene Debs, John Altgeld, and George Francis Train, suspects and non-descripts, should take their place with Jacob Riis, Josiah Flint, and Wyckoff, who have lived in slums and served as tramps; with Lloyd, Ely, Gunton, Herron and Mayo Smith, who have sought to express in more careful or scientific terms the social problems of the day. The radical of yesterday is the conservative of today. In a great library there is room for all, and in the extended use of a great library lies one of the best correctives for ills afflicting the body social, for it is equally suggestive as to cause and remedy. Catholicity is its only safe rule, for no man is cursed with omniscience, or with omnipotence to give it effect.

The library thus serves for all ages and for all times, a permanent educational instrument and a valuable investment, returning interest in the opportunities it gives. One of the features of the Roman Catholic church is that its doors are always open, and spiritual comfort may be had at any time and for every occasion. Does not the Library offer as timely a privilege, though more worldly, and give an opportunity for amusement, instruction, assistance, and improvement?

The public schools of Boston number 81,000 pupils and involve a cost of \$31 a year for every pupil; the public library has 65,000 cards in

use, and issues for home use 1,250,000 volumes a year, among a population of less than 600,000. One person in every nine of population holds a card, and each card takes an average of 20 books a year. Making a general average, each head of population takes two volumes a year—a large proportion when similar returns from other cities are examined. This does not take into account the use of the different departments of the library and branches within their walls. The entire expense is less than \$261,000 a year, and the city contributes of this sum \$248,000. The cost of each cardholder is less than \$4 a year, and the cost of circulating each volume in actual use is 2 cents. The per capita tax on population for library purposes is .41 cents a year. Bear in mind, too, the use is purely voluntary, and free to all. Surely much good must come from such leavening activity, even if some of the books that circulate by the quarter of a million are not to be found in its collections.

Recent investigations have shown that in deep ocean—and in the last year soundings have discovered in the Pacific depths greater than have hitherto been known—in deep ocean there is a stratum of water lighted from above, and the ocean bed has a light of its own. Between these flows a stratum of water without light, impenetrable to light, a sinister and gloomy bar of separation. Through this black belt, it is believed, occur those great migrations of the inhabitants of the sea, as safe from above as from below, and pursuing unchecked those great mysterious movements that have so much purpose to them and so inexplicable a meaning to us. Is not this symbolic of what is to be found in the social world? There are those who live near the sunlight, and those who live in the lowest depths, enjoying an illumination of a totally different character. Between the two live and move and be a vast number, possessing desires, activities, and purposes of their own, and having little connection with above or with below. We talk glibly of the "submerged tenth." From some positions it is rather the submerged nine-tenths of which we should speak. If the library offers to a small part of these some refuge, some pleasure, some illumination, some opportunity, its existence is justified.

OPEN SHELVES AND BOOK-THEFT.

BY ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, *Librarian Brooklyn Public Library.*

PROBABLY no innovation in library management has ever won its way so quickly to approval as the open-access system. It has spread so rapidly, and has sprung into favor so universally, after the first gasp of incredulity that met it when it was originally brought forward, that of late its advocates have been treating it as a great natural fact, which it is as shocking to criticise as it would be to "speak disrespectfully of the equator."

Against any such attitude as this, reaction is sure to come, and all the more that there is a large body of conservative librarians who have always looked askance at the system, although temporarily struck dumb by the rapidity of its triumphant progress. As an advocate and friend of the system, I have always been chagrined at the difficulty of getting free critical discussion of it at library meetings, and have regarded the unanimous indorsements of it at such meetings as the result not so much of reasoned conviction as of dislike to be behind the times. A crowd that is all crying "hosanna" at once may always be looked upon with caution.

That the reaction is at hand is evident from such papers as that of Mr. Willcox, of Peoria, published in the *MARCH LIBRARY JOURNAL*. As is usual with reactions, the pendulum is allowed to swing beyond the equilibrium point, but, on the whole, his treatment of the subject is fair, although it is as strong an arraignment of the open-shelf as could be made. This being the case, it is gratifying to find that it contains nothing more than has been familiar to all who have used the system. In only one point does he touch on something that has not been fairly treated by those of us who advocate and expect to maintain it. I refer to the matter of book-theft, and regarding that matter I desire to say a word.

Institutions that perform certain public services free can, it seems to me, always study with profit the methods of institutions that perform similar services in the way of business. Both depend ultimately for their support on the public, but the latter do so more directly, and hence, if well managed, will respond more quickly to public opinion and public needs. Thus public librarians who distribute reading-matter free of charge should not neglect to

study the methods of the booksellers, who provide the public with books for money. The latter, in fact, were the pioneers in the open-shelf system. Not so very long ago the person in a large city who wished to pass a pleasant hour with books, handling them and dipping into them, and making mental notes for future reading, went not to the public library but to one of the great bookstores; in many cases he would go there still. There we find the open shelf almost absolutely without restriction. The objections to it are the same as in the case of a library—the increased wear, the disorder, the danger of theft. Yet the bookstore finds that the system is a profitable one, otherwise it would be abandoned at short notice. And since the profit of the bookstore depends directly on the appreciation and patronage of the public, there is little doubt that in this case, as in that of the library, the public likes open access. The bookseller must freely acknowledge the objections to allowing the public access to his stock. He regards them partly as necessary evils, offset by the pecuniary advantages of the system, but at the same time he strives to minimize them as much as possible. The librarian must do likewise. While acknowledging the necessity of a certain amount of wear, disorder, and theft, he must train his public to habits of order, he must furnish trained assistants to aid in selection at the shelves, where such aid is needed, and he must strive in every way possible to detect and prevent dishonesty.

This is where the open-shelf librarian has laid himself open to criticism. It is quite true, as Mr. Willcox says, that the attitude of some of us might well be interpreted as an encouragement to criminals. The fact is that the first attitude of a librarian toward theft, after he has opened his shelves to the public, is usually that of disbelief. He doesn't think that any more books will be stolen than under the old system. Then he takes an inventory, and his eyes are opened. His feeling changes to dismay. The losses are vastly greater than any to which he has been accustomed. He says nothing about it, hoping that there is some mistake; that most of the missing books will "turn up." Then his conscience smites him. In the hope of soothing it he takes his pen in hand,

and after figuring for a time he announces triumphantly that the loss is not so very great after all; that it is equal only to the salary of one or two assistants, and that it must be accepted as part of the regular course of things. This is the attitude to which exception is very properly taken. In the further mental evolution of the perplexed open-shelf librarian it must presently be succeeded by another and a final stage; namely, a determination to take active measures for the reduction of loss by theft to the lowest possible limits, no matter what these may involve, and the conviction that as long as a stone is left unturned in this direction the whole duty of the librarian to the public has not been performed.

In what way, now, shall theft be prevented? The conservative librarians represented by Mr. Willcox propose a very effective way — the abolishment or large restriction of open access, at least in libraries of any considerable size. But logic would require that, as there is still loss from circulation, the privilege of home use should next be withdrawn, and as even reference libraries suffer from theft a further step would be the total exclusion of the general public. This would carry us back to the Middle Ages by a road on which he who advocates giving up open access has taken a long step. Whenever the public is admitted to a privilege, its dishonest or mischievous members will surely abuse that privilege, and an extension of privilege means an increase of abuse. The remedy lies not in withholding the privilege but in preventing or limiting the abuse. When a city throws open its parks to the public there will always be those who will trample on the grass and steal the flowers. The city does not shut the park gates; it polices the park properly.

If we are to deal effectively with theft in open-shelf libraries, we must police our libraries properly. The regular assistants must use constant vigilance, but besides this the aid of special watchers, detectives and members of the police force must be used when necessary. Why should the librarian be afraid of this, or why should the public object to it? Does any one feel aggrieved that the watchful eye of a park policeman is upon him as he enters the city's pleasure ground? Does any one refuse to patronize a department store because detectives in plain clothes are everywhere on the alert to prevent shoplifting? Why should not the librarians say boldly: "There is theft here,

and we are bound, so far as possible, to prevent or detect it"? The law and its enforcement are terrible only to evil doers. Which would the user of a library rather have at his elbow, a book-thief or a detective? Probably the latter, unless he is a book-thief himself. It may be unfortunate that we must offer him so unattractive an alternative, but apparently thus it must be.

The librarians of this country are going to stand by the open-shelf system, but they will make a great mistake if they interpret this to mean that they must ignore all criticism of it and shut their eyes to its faults instead of doing all in their power to mend them.

HOW TO ACCOUNT FOR DECREASED ISSUES.

From the Library World.

It frequently happens that when librarians present statistical returns of books issued during certain periods to their committees, some inquisitive member wants to know the reason for the decrease, if there is one, or why fewer books have been circulated than at the corresponding date last year. These questions are usually sprung without preface or warning, and are consequently rather awkward to answer, especially if, as is always the case, the librarian's mind is a perfect blank as regards this particular matter. It has occurred to me that it would be a useful thing to collect a few stereotyped, but effective replies, selected from annual reports and the utterances of librarians, which could be arranged in a series, and fired off in rotation whenever this question of decreased issues was raised. No librarian is prepared at a moment's notice to give reasons for decreases of book issues, and when compiling his annual report he wants all his imagination for his figures; consequently, the series of answers I have gathered should be of immense service to the profession at large. The following are a few selected Reasons for Decreased Issues:

1. The recent decrease in our lending library issues is undoubtedly due to the fine weather which has prevailed all through the season, tempting people, and particularly young people, to spend most of their spare time in the open-air.

2. It is with regret that I have to announce an unfortunate decline in the issues from the lending department, caused by the dull and broken weather which marked most of last year [month, week, or quarter, as the case may be], and compelled many of our readers to seek refuge at home, where they no doubt found sufficient literary pabulum in the evening newspapers.

3. No doubt the universal cult of the cycle is accountable for the slight [or large] decrease in our circulation. In some respects it is as well perhaps for the public health, that stimu-

lating outdoor exercise should be preferred to the comparatively depressing atmosphere of home—even with a good, solid book from the library.

4. Great activity in all local trades has contributed not a little to lower the usually satisfactory total of our lending library issues. There is always less time and inclination to read when business is good all over the country.

5. Owing to the lamented death of our worthy chairman [insert name and titles] and the consequent closing of the leading department for two hours during the funeral ceremony, the issues from the lending library show a slight falling off as compared with last year.

6. The large falling off in circulation of novels which has greatly reduced the total issues for the year is a phenomenon common to most active libraries like our own, and is occasioned by the time expended on reading more wholesome and substantial literature by our borrowers.

7. The ravages of the influenza epidemic among members of the staff in the early spring led to the closing of the library for several weeks, with the result that we have to record an appreciable decrease in the issue of books from the lending department.

8. The epidemic of [measles, whooping cough, scarlatina, foot and mouth disease, anything] which visited our town this autumn is the cause of the decrease in this year's issue.

9. It will be noticed that our total issues begin to show a decrease, but this only as compared with the last three or four years when our issues were quite abnormally high. But as compared with, say 1881, a most satisfactory increase is observable, proving that the popularity of the library grows year by year.

10. We have to draw attention for the first time since the opening of the library to a decrease in the total number of books circulated during the past year. This decrease, however, is entirely due to the fact that the demand has so far exceeded the supply that hardly any of the more popular books were to be found on the shelves, so that it has been a customary thing for borrowers to go empty handed away. This, though pulling down the issues, is an eloquent testimony alike to the zeal of our readers, and the urgent need for more books.

Note.—The careful reader may be of opinion that the reasoning of the two preceding paragraphs is a trifle mixed. They are submitted as good examples of those explanations which need explaining, at which all public officials should be experts. So long as they *sound* well nobody is troubled about the meaning.

11. The disturbed state of the public mind this winter, owing to the [war in South Africa, crisis in the boot trade, famine in India, trouble with Russia, anything] is largely responsible for the unfortunate drop in the issues of all departments which the figures of the present report show. A public library is as sensitive as a barometer to the changes in the popular mood, and when this is unusually depressed or excited, reading invariably suffers.

Note.—The foregoing is highly recommended.

The barometer simile alone may build up the librarian a reputation for deep wisdom. Of course few will read it in a report, but the local paper will be bound to quote it.

12. After several years of increasing issues I have this year to lament a decrease, due, there is no doubt, to the fully annotated catalogs published during the librarianship of my able predecessor. The public read the annotations, which are lengthy, instead of the books. This experience has demonstrated the bad effect of annotated catalogs. I propose to compile all future catalogs on the old lines, and give as little information as I conveniently can.

A. L. A. EXHIBIT AT PARIS EXPOSITION.

IF on April 14 President Loubet had stopped at the chaste, white building at the Pont de l'Alma on his way down the Seine, after formally opening the Paris Exposition of 1900, he would have found in the United States section of the Social Economy building, installed and ready for inspection, the exhibit of the American Library Association. Miss Woodworth's comprehensive paper* makes a further detailed description unnecessary, but a few words concerning the exhibit in its new environment may be of interest.

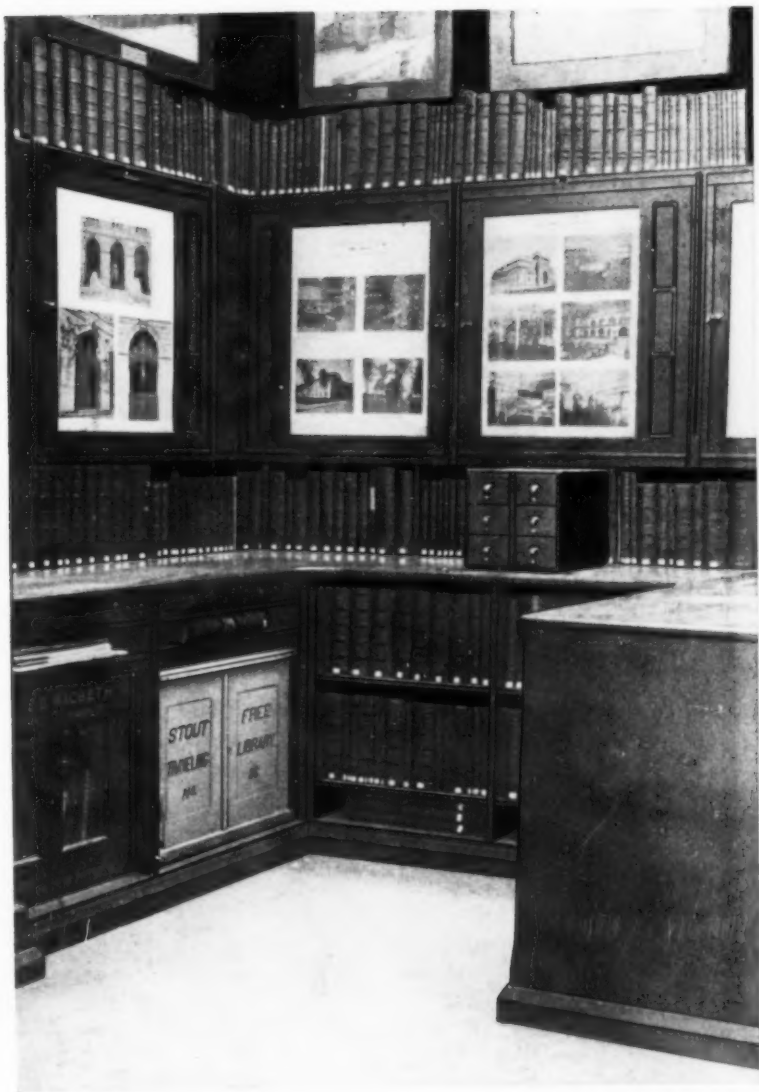
The Palais de l'Economie Sociale et des Congrès is centrally and delightfully situated on the right bank of the Seine at the Place de l'Alma entrance to the Exposition and midway between Pont Alexandre III., at the Esplanade des Invalides, and the Pont d'Iéna, at the Champ de Mars. It is a simple, single-mass building, two stories in height, of the modern French style of architecture, cream white in color, and of beautiful proportions, stretching along the Seine for 400 feet and reaching back from the river 150 feet to the gay and green-arched Rue de Paris.

The main entrance, opening into a spacious hall from which two great staircases lead to the upper floor, is from this street. The second story is devoted almost entirely to the congresses. On the side toward the Seine is a corridor or promenade extending the length of the building, and on the opposite side are five lecture rooms, varying in size from a small hall to a large auditorium. The Institut International de Bibliographie† also has its headquarters on this floor.

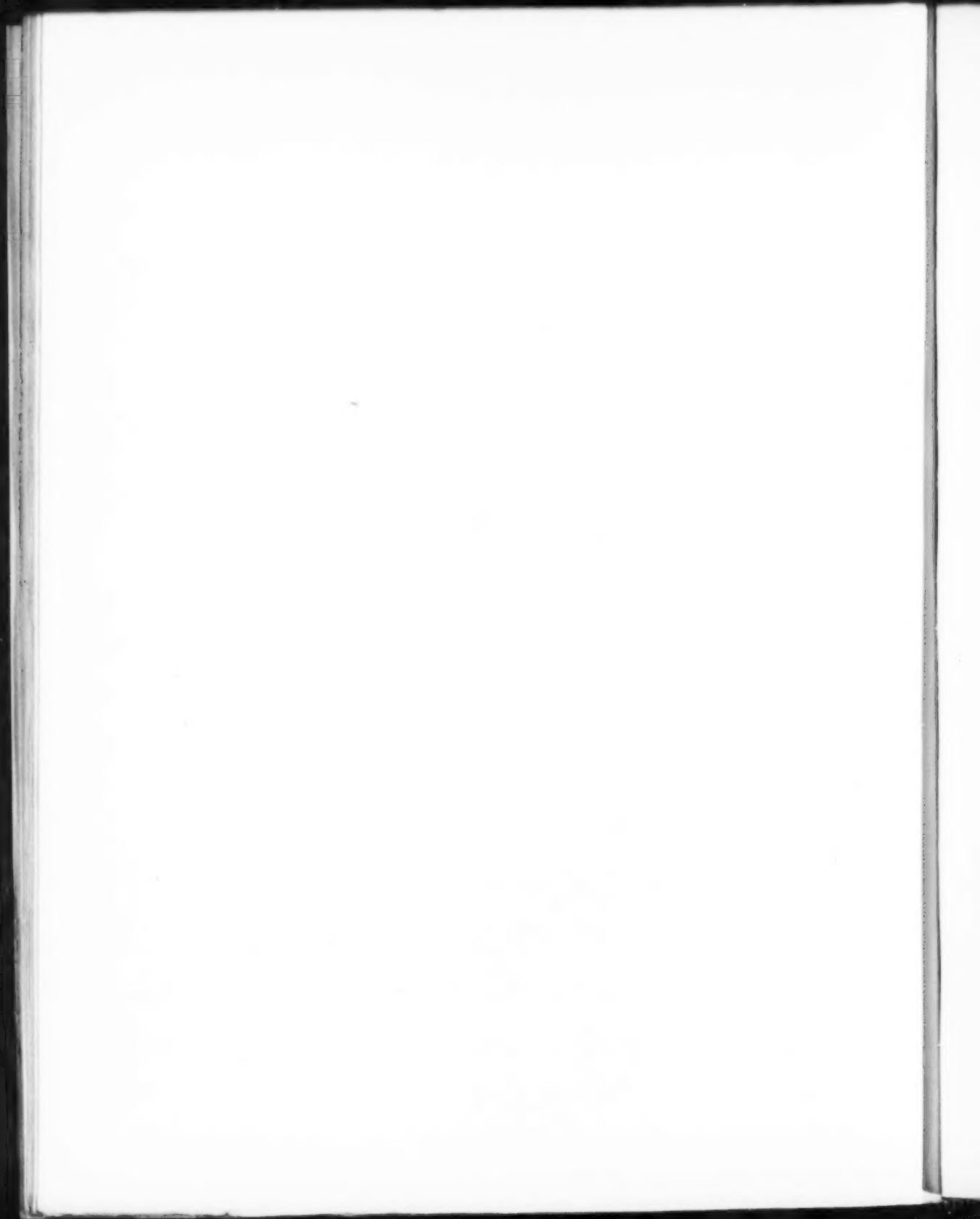
The first floor is occupied by the social economy exhibits, arranged by countries, which, in turn, are grouped along two main aisles traversing the length of the building from east to west. By far the greater area is occupied by France, the spaces assigned to other countries being small, with Russia and Germany the favored nations here as elsewhere. As a whole the exhibit may be briefly characterized as consisting of pictures, photographs, statistical maps and charts, architectural drawings of public institutions, books, and a few models.

* See LIBRARY JOURNAL, March, p. 116.

† See p. 273.



AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXHIBIT, PARIS EXPOSITION, MAY, 1900.



Near the Pont de l'Alma entrance to the building, with its white-curtained windows overlooking the river, and with Germany, the Orange Free States, Russia, Switzerland, and Holland for near neighbors, is the United States section, in reality a small room, 32 by 28 feet. It is finished in antique oak and the walls are hung with rich, green burlap. The space is divided into units, each exhibitor being allowed a certain number. A unit, roughly speaking, is two feet and nine inches in width, and varies in height from 10 to 15 feet. Three feet from the floor is a deep ledge, two feet and eight inches in width, on which is a showcase two feet wide and six inches deep. Above the ledge is a case holding 33 wing frames, and above that wall space for hanging pictures. Below the ledge are shelves. The external character of the exhibits does not vary materially from that of the other countries—that is, the points are brought out mainly by means of photographs, charts, and books. An interesting exhibit, showing the development of the resources and industries of the United States, prepared under the direction of Mr. H. J. Rogers, director in charge of education and social economy, occupies half of the room. Among the other exhibits may be mentioned the negro exhibit, prepared and in charge of Mr. T. J. Calloway, of Washington; those of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Philadelphia Museum for the Development of International Commerce, and the exhibits of several insurance companies.

The library exhibit occupies the southwest corner of the section. Its three outside boundary lines measure respectively seven feet, nine feet and three inches, and six feet and three inches. A ledge two feet and eight inches wide projects from each side, so that the free floor surface is reduced to four feet and two inches by three feet and ten and one-half inches. Comparatively speaking it is a generous allowance of space—that is, it is one-fourteenth of the entire space assigned to the United States in this group.

The material of the exhibit is divided into five classes, (1) monographs, (2) pictures, (3) charts, (4) books, and (5) appliances. By far the greater proportion consists of photographs and books. The books are arranged, according to the decimal classification, in nine tiers. In each tier the ledge and the top of the wing-frame case constitute two shelves. Tiers one, two, five, and seven contain shelves utilized for photograph portfolios and large folio volumes. The appliances are grouped on five shelves below the ledge in tier nine, and are protected from dust by a plate-glass door. The George D. Macbeth Home Library, from the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, and the Stout Free Travelling Library, No. 26, are below the ledge in tiers one and two. It will be noticed that the tiers are broken, first, by the ledge, and second, by the wing-frame cases. Their sides, however, are sharply defined by wooden uprights. The greater part of the 700 photographs are in the wing-frames, whose six cases each have the regulation unit width of two feet and nine

inches. (The unusually wide ledge, cutting out two corners each two feet and eight inches square, made it impossible to follow the width of the cases in the book tiers.) On the wall space above the wing-frames photographs of the Congressional Library, Boston and Chicago public libraries, Carnegie Library (Pittsburgh), Buffalo Library, Ames Free Library, Columbia, Yale, and Princeton university libraries, and the Millicent Library, framed in black, stand out attractively against their background of dark green. The big, deep corners, made accessible by trap doors opening through the ledge, afford ample storage room.

The thanks of the Library Association are due to Mr. Rogers for the interest and courtesy he has shown in the installation of the exhibit. It was found on examining the units as originally set up that not more than half the exhibit could be installed. At the cost of a week's labor, during the rush and supreme confusion of the opening weeks of the Exposition, the changes asked were allowed, and carpenters and painters promptly sent. The radical changes made increased the shelf capacity from 30 to 62 feet, provided the lockers for storage, the plate-glass door for the protection of the appliances, and, in short, made the entire exhibit as sent from Albany open to view and easily accessible.

Members of the Association can well be proud of its exhibit. Compact, comprehensive, and attractive it shows a hearty co-operation on the part of American libraries, a most judicious selection of material, and the great care, thought, and labor expended in its preparation at the New York State Library.

J. L. HARRISON.

INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CONGRESS AT PARIS.

AN international congress of librarians is to be held in Paris, August 20-23, 1900, as one of the various international congresses arranged in connection with the Paris Exposition. The committee of organization has issued a circular setting forth the general program, conditions of attendance, etc. Membership subscription to the congress is placed at 10 francs, and special railway rates have been assured by the leading French companies. Sessions will be held in the Sorbonne, and admission will be by cards issued to members. The congress will comprise not only the Sorbonne sessions, but visits to libraries and to scientific institutions. Speakers will be limited to 15 minutes, and information regarding all papers upon which discussion is to be based should be communicated to the committee before July 15. French will be the official language of the congress; Latin, however, will be admitted, and papers in German, English, Spanish, and Italian, provided the latter are accompanied with a brief resumé in French. Members who speak without notes are requested to furnish a summary of their remarks in French or Latin to the secretary within 24 hours, for use in the proceedings. A condensed report of the proceedings will be

issued to members as promptly as possible after the congress, and a volume containing such papers and addresses as the committee may decide to print will be published later.

The general program has been divided into four main divisions, which, the committee points out, are to be considered only as a basis for discussion and consideration. To these main subjects are appended various related questions; and it is announced that contributions upon interesting points not outlined in the preliminary program will be welcome.

The general subject for the first division of the program is the history, legislation, and organization of public libraries, with consideration of copyright depository requirements. The appended questions touch upon (1) the new information now available regarding library history from its beginning to the present time, (2) study and comparison of library laws, (3) international exchanges, (4) relation of libraries with the administrative authorities, states, municipalities, corporations, etc., (5) the best organization for popular libraries, (6) the *personnel* of libraries, qualifications and selection of candidates.

In the second division the general subject is library buildings, equipment, and care, and the sub-topics are, (1) study of the care of libraries in the Middle Ages, (2) presentation of the best means of installing books in a new library and of improving the arrangement of an old library, (3) account of the best methods, as planned or as in use, in libraries recently installed, (4) report on special precautions desirable to insure libraries from danger of fire.

The third division is devoted to the various branches of a broad subject. Treatment of manuscripts, printed books, maps, photographs, etc.; acquisition, registration, and stamping of books, inventories and catalogs, means of preservation, repairing, binding, are the main topics scheduled, while the minor questions to be brought up include best recent methods of preparing a catalog for a new library or improving the catalogs of an old library, application to library economy of the various systems of bibliographical classification, treatment of ephemera and public documents that should be preserved but cannot be immediately cataloged, the care of books and the best means of preserving them, and the preservation and restoration of palimpsests, manuscripts, maps, early printed books, etc.

Under division four is scheduled the subject: "Use of books inside and outside of libraries," the sub-topics appended being (1) Under what conditions should the issue of books be authorized for the various classes of libraries? (2) What regulations should be adopted regarding the lending of valuable books and manuscripts from one library to another? (3) The responsibility of librarians for the use and lending of the books confided to their charge, and (4) The dangers of conveying contagious diseases through public library books, and preventive measures.

Information regarding the congress, with subscription blanks and circulars, may be ob-

tained from the secretary of the congress, M. Henry Martin, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal, Rue de Sully, Paris.

ZAPON AS A PAPER PRESERVATIVE.

In the *Bollettino delle Pubblicazioni Italiane* for April 30, 1900, are some particulars concerning "Zapon," the new preservative for paper and parchments which was described in a memoir by Col. E. Schill at the Dresden conference of 18th of Sept., 1899, and briefly mentioned in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, Jan., p. 19.

"The method," according to the *Bollettino*, "consists in imbuing the paper or parchment in a solution of nitrocellulose (gun cotton)—with or without the addition of camphor—in acetate of amyl, to which a small amount of acetone has been added to increase the solubility.

"The experiments of Dr. Schill began nine years ago, and their processes are different according to the different qualities, the alterations, or the injuries of the paper or parchment. On this point the author gives minute particulars in his paper.

"Paper or parchment, even if previously almost ready to fall to pieces, acquire by means of this bath great resisting power, and if they were porous, as blotting paper, they lose this quality. When placed under a spray of water the paper is not penetrated, and it undergoes no damage even if boiled in water for some time.

"If the paper is in good condition it becomes more capable of resistance to harm and less subject to change. The fungus growth, which is the first cause of injury and which is developed because of dampness, finding a good 'substratum of culture,' especially in the glue of the paper, cannot be formed when treated with this solution.

"Documents in printer's ink, in writing ink, and in colors, are not damaged; instead they are rendered more clear. This holds good also for the illuminated initials of old manuscripts and printed books. It is possible to write and draw upon paper imbued in this solution with black or colored pencil, ink, and with watercolors and oils. The writing subsequent to the bath can be removed also by simply washing the paper with water.

"Paper is preserved from the chemical action either of the acids or alkalis found in modern inks, and can be disinfected, even by immersion in a solution of corrosive sublimate, if at any time there is any suspicion that it contains germs of infectious diseases (tuberculosis, yellow fever, etc.).

"Further, this solution can be used to preserve from decay the gilding of bound books.

"This solution, conveniently prepared, and for sale under the name Zapon, costs three marks per litre, and is to be had of Otto Winkler, Leipzig, Uferstrasse, 8. He furnishes also apparatus of a simple character especially suited to the operation—and pamphlets which give directions for the process."

This discovery, taken with the recent use of preparations from the same base, celluloid, to harden and preserve fabrics and leathers, may

yet revolutionize our method of handling manuscripts, archives, rare bindings, and fragile printed matter. The literature of the subject falls within the last five years. Will not some librarian with chemical training present the facts as they have been developed up to date? The manufacture of kindred preparations for commercial use in this country leads to the hope that we may not have to send to Leipzig for "Zapon."
WM. W. BISHOP.

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN.

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN, whose threefold benefactions to the Providence Public Library were recorded in the May LIBRARY JOURNAL as making it possible to erect the beautiful building opened to the public on March 15, died at his residence in New York on May 1, after a brief illness.

Mr. Brown was still a comparatively young man, having been born in 1861, in Providence, where he was educated, entering Brown University in 1881. His health, always delicate, made it impossible for him to complete the full course of four years, yet few men have ever made better use of the opportunities they had for broadening and deepening the intellectual life than he did. And these opportunities were quite exceptional. A large fortune, wide travel, and, above all, the invaluable private library—the John Carter Brown Library—which had come into his possession, all combined to make him a well-equipped man in the highest sense of the word. For the past five years Mr. George Parker Winship has been in charge, as librarian, of this precious collection of Americana (before the year 1800), and decided progress has been made towards definitely perfecting some of its departments. It is of interest to recall the fact that the present building of the Brown University Library was a memorial of Mr. Brown's father, John Carter Brown, but few had remembered, until the fact was pointed out in a recent address of Mr. Winship, that the John Carter Brown Library itself embodies not merely the acquisitions of the father and son already mentioned, but of several successive generations of the same family back of them. At the time of Mr. John Nicholas Brown's death he had already given his final approval to the plans drawn by the architects, Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, for a permanent building, of fireproof construction, which would be worthy of this priceless collection of Americana.

When, in 1897, the Providence Public Library was in serious straits, and the completion of its new building a matter of grave doubt, it was this Providence book-collector and connoisseur of book rarities who proved to be, after all, the citizen most keenly appreciative of the needs of the public, and who embodied his sympathy in these munificent gifts. That the life of this friend and benefactor should not have been prolonged for years, to witness the unending results of his generosity, is, and must remain, a source of the keenest disappointment to those in charge of the library.

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

American Library Association.

President: Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

Secretary: F. W. Faxon, 108 Glenway street, Dorchester, Mass.

Treasurer: Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL MEETING,
MONTREAL, JUNE 7-16, 1900.

On the morning of Thursday, June 7, 1900, the 22d conference of the American Library Association was opened in the Convocation Hall of the Presbyterian College of McGill University, Montreal; on the evening of Saturday, June 16, on the R. & O. steamer *Canada*, the meeting was declared adjourned *sine die*. The 10 days of this Canadian conference will long stand out in the record of A. L. A. meetings, in their combination of beautiful surroundings, varied interests, large attendance, and the overflowing hospitality and kindness of the welcome extended by friends and fellow-workers in the Dominion. In point of attendance the meeting ranges closely with the Chautauqua conference of 1898, these two meetings being the largest in the history of the Association. At the final Montreal session 439 persons had been registered, and the total recorded attendance may fairly be estimated as 450. The representative character of the meeting may be illustrated by the fact that of the 20 members of the A. L. A. council only three were absent, while geographically the attendance ranged from East to West across the continent. The headquarters of the Association were in the Windsor Hotel, and the business sessions were held in the fine hall of the Presbyterian College of McGill University, about a 10-minute walk distant, set in the beautiful college grounds almost at the foot of Mount Royal. The meeting had been so arranged that the active working days were broken by a Sunday, set aside as a "day of rest, or for study of the ecclesiastical features of Montreal"—an innovation that seemed to meet with general approval; while the program presented had a variety and freshness that was surprising when one reflects how often most library questions have been considered and discussed.

Most of the delegates reached Montreal in the late afternoon of Wednesday, June 6, and as usual, the evening of arrival was devoted to an informal reception and social session, held in the Windsor parlors. Here the visitors were welcomed by the local reception committee, and with kindly hosts and friends old and new the fatigues of travel were forgotten for a pleasant hour or two.

FIRST DAY.

Thursday, June 7, was the first business day of the conference. It opened in Convocation Hall, where, at 10.15 a.m., President Thwaites called the meeting to order, and introduced Dr. William Peterson, Principal of McGill University. Dr. Peterson's short address of welcome

was full of the spirit of cordial good will, touching sympathetically upon the mission of public libraries at the present day, and emphasizing the kinship between the English-speaking people in purpose, in method, and in the free play of personal opinion. Differences there were, and must be, but he felt that all might join in the hope for "a quiet and steady development of the sense of brotherhood, of a feeling for unity of moral forces and sentiment, and for the strengthening of this brotherhood, in spite of all difficulties, by the use of a common language and the sentiment of a common freedom."

After a few words of response, the president introduced the routine business of the morning by the announcement of the Committee on Resolutions, as follows: F. M. Crunden, W. H. Tillinghast, James Bain, jr., Miss Wallace, J. A. Rowell. The report of the conference of 1899 was approved, as printed and distributed. Reports of various officers and committees followed. Secretary Carr made a brief statement of progress and asked leave to report formally in print. Mr. Jones presented the treasurer's report, which under vote of the executive board covered the period May to December, 1899, thus making the financial year of the association correspond with the calendar year. The report showed receipts of \$321.43, expenses \$766.68, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$54.75. "From Jan. 1 to May 31, 1900, the receipts have been \$1348 and the payments \$480.84, the balance on hand on May 31 being \$921.91." Mr. Jones continued: "The finances of the Association are now upon a good basis so long as we limit our expenses within traditional lines, but there are many ways in which the officers of the Association could spend money to advantage in forwarding library interests, if some means of increasing our income could be found. I doubt if any association of similar character has accomplished so much on so small an expenditure of funds." The membership was stated as 664, 61 new members having joined during the period. The necrology included nine names—William W. Bailey, Edward Bates, Mrs. Adelaide Goodwin Davis, William Macrillis Griswold, Reuben Aldridge Guild, William Kite, Gustav E. Stechert, Albert W. Whelpley, Josiah Herbert Whittier, Norman Williams. The report was accepted, and referred to the Finance Committee for audit.

W. C. Lane presented the report of the Publishing Section, which was rather a review of conditions and limitations than a statistical report. An interesting point was made in the statement that while the book publications of the Section—with the exception of the "A. L. A. index" and the "List of subject headings"—have not paid for themselves, all the card publications "have been successful from the beginning and the profit on them has more than made up for the deficit on the books." The work of the year included the continuation of the printed cards for current books, the annotated cards in English history, and the cards for periodical publications; cards were issued for the "Warner library" and for monographs in the Massa-

chusetts state documents for 1898, and three numbers were issued in the series of "Library tracts," authorized at the Atlanta meeting. The work in hand embraces a second edition of the "A. L. A. index," now nearly completed, the "Portrait index," Mr. Larned's "Annotated bibliography of American history," and a general index to articles in library periodicals by Miss M. S. R. James and Miss A. L. Sargent. Other bibliographical enterprises have also been submitted to the Section and the work before it bids fair to develop beyond present facilities for handling it. "In fact, the time has come when, both for its own sake and in justice to those who serve it, the Publishing Section should have salaried officers, and should no longer depend on volunteer and unpaid service. To make the change successfully, however, requires a better financial foundation than the Publishing Section yet has. The outcome of the year 1899 has been favorable financially, but it must be remembered that no new work has been entered upon involving any considerable outlay such as is likely to be needed during the next two or three years if the various undertakings in progress or proposed are carried out." In comment on the Section's report Mr. Fletcher explained that the new edition of the "A. L. A. index" will bring the work up to the close of 1899, and will make a special feature of bibliographies and reading lists on special subjects. A condensed "Poole's index" is also in preparation to cover the same period, so that the two books when issued will give practically an index to the periodical and analytical literature of the century.

The report of the trustees of the endowment fund was read by Mr. Soule and referred to the finance committee. The report showed assets of \$6329.27, with an available income estimated for 1900-1901 at about \$500. C. H. Gould, for the Committee on Foreign Documents, reported progress in the preparation of the list of German documents to be issued by the committee; W. T. Peoples, for the Committee on A. L. A. Exhibit at Paris Exposition, made a brief report of approval and appreciation of the work done by the New York State Library in the preparation of the exhibit; and in the absence of F. J. Teggart, chairman of the Committee on Handbook of American Libraries, Mr. Rowell gave a short statement of the condition of the work. About 85 per cent. of the material was said to be in hand, sample pages had been printed for distribution at the meeting, and it was hoped that a final report might soon be presented.

J. C. Dana presented the report of the Committee on Library Schools. This was accompanied by a table giving comparative statistics regarding curriculum, students, and instructors in the four leading schools—which were the only ones considered in the report. The report dealt with principles and tendencies rather than with technical generalities; it was direct and brief, pointing out that practical and effective library training was not to be secured from schools alone, and that "both schools and training classes should not permit the impres-

sion to go abroad that their work is greater than it really is." The emphasis laid upon cataloging and classification was regarded as excessive, though due to the fact "that these are among the few things in library management which are so formulated that they can be taught." Thorough preparation for library work may be secured in a library as well as in a school, and the chief thing needed to raise library work to a real professional standard is insistence on sound scholastic training as necessary to admission to library and school alike. The report concluded with a recommendation that the executive board appoint a committee of five members on library training, each member to serve for three years; this committee to visit each year the several library schools and training classes and to report thereon.

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Dewey said that at Albany the recent growth of the school had been in the steady direction of higher entrance requirements; that the number of men entering had also increased, and that there had been a constant broadening of the course. He felt that no course of training could do more than bring out individual qualities—"If a man is born of poor fibre, of poor fibre he will remain. You can polish agate; you can polish mahogany; but you can't polish a pumpkin—and if a third-rate man comes to a library school, and the Lord made him third-rate, he will be a third-rate librarian to the end of the chapter." Dr. Richardson, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Crunden, Mrs. Fairchild, and Miss Plummer also spoke, and the recommendations of the committee were referred to the council for action.

The report of the Committee on Library Tracts was read by F. P. Hill. It stated that the first three numbers of the series—"Why do we need a public library?" "How to start a public library," by Dr. G. E. Wire, and "Travelling libraries," by F. A. Hutchins—had been issued through the Publishing Section; and it recommended that the preparation and publication of the succeeding numbers be transferred to the Section.

The report of the committee on providing cheap postage for library books had been sent in to Secretary Carr, who presented it, without reading, for later consideration. A series of resolutions on the subject were presented by Mr. Foster, and the entire matter was referred to the council for recommendation to the Association.

G. W. C. Stockwell gave a summary of his full report on gifts and bequests. This covered a period of 10 years, and showed a total of 458 separate gifts amounting to over \$10,500,000. "Of this about \$1,000,000 has been given in sums of less than \$1000. 123 new buildings are reported, worth over \$4,500,000. Mr. Carnegie's name occurs repeatedly throughout the report. During the two years he has aided 51 libraries to the amount of \$4,560,450, in the majority of cases the money to be used for a building. Mr. Carnegie's total gifts to libraries amount to \$9,600,000, of which \$900,000 has been given to libraries outside the United States. At

one time and another he has aided 87 libraries, of which 67 are in the United States, 17 in Scotland, two in England, and one in Ireland. The 67 libraries in the United States are located in 21 states." The report reiterated the recommendation made by Miss Hewins, in 1896, for "the appointment of a librarian or library trustee in every state who will be responsible for the news of that state concerning gifts and bequests and send all items collected during the year at least three months before the annual meeting of the A. L. A. to the person appointed by the executive committee to report upon them," and on motion of Mr. Carr the recommendation was referred to the incoming executive board for action.

The new constitution adopted by the Atlanta conference was then presented for ratification by W. C. Lane, with a recommendation from the executive board that the constitution be adopted as a whole without amendment, any amendments to be discussed and voted on at the next meeting. On motion of Dr. Steiner, it was voted that the constitution be thus adopted; and the session then adjourned.

The afternoon was given up to a trolley ride through the city to the suburb of Westmount, where the Association was welcomed to the charming building of the Westmount Public Library by Mayor W. D. Lighthall. The other attractive municipal buildings were visited and admired, and a lawn tea was served on the beautiful grounds of the public park.

In the evening a public meeting was held in Windsor Hall, adjoining the headquarters hotel. It was largely attended, and was opened by the reading of a cordial message of greeting from the Library Association of the United Kingdom. President Thwaites then delivered his annual address, reviewing "Ten years of American library progress." He pointed out the many striking features of library work that had either had their inception or been developed within these ten years—"State library commissions; inter-state, state, and district associations; library training schools; traveling and branch libraries; traveling pictures; library advertising; children's rooms; rooms for the blind; access to shelves; co-operation with teachers; co-operative cataloging; inter-library loans and exchanges; the general erection of superb library buildings; phenomenal gifts from philanthropists of library buildings and endowments; compulsory library legislation; improved methods of binding and issuing public documents—all of these, which to-day so largely engross the attention of American librarians, in their conventions and professional journals, are practically the outgrowth of this brief period. For the most part, they are efforts towards popularizing the library; and this is clearly the especial characteristic of our recent professional growth." The growth of the A. L. A., from its organization in 1876, was sketched, and the various movements developed from that central force were noted. In conclusion, the speaker dwelt upon the great progress made in library technique, especially in the development of co-operative effort between libraries, expressing the belief that "if

librarianship has in our day come to be recognized as a profession, it is because we have at last become imbued with the scientific spirit—are mutually helpful, continually awake to new impressions, eagerly receptive of new ideas and new ideals, ever experimenting, ever learning, ever broadening, ever building on the foundations of the past."

Sir Melbourne Tait followed, with an address welcoming the A. L. A. to Canada, and dwelling upon the mission of libraries as one of the strongest influences in the advance of civilization. He concluded by pointing out the great need that existed in Montreal for a public library to which the citizens might look with as much pride as they did to McGill University.

"Brotherhood among English-speaking men" was the theme of a spirited address by Dr. J. K. Hosmer, who spoke with sympathy and humor of the many ties that bind the English-speaking race in one brotherhood. He felt that differences of political constitution were no bar to the union of aims and of sentiment. "In this magnificent Anglo-Christendom, 130,000,000 strong to-day, no one political frame would suffice. It is well we have the British constitution and the American constitution; alike but separate. It is well that we should have them, but let us see that we have the connecting link that binds the two frames, and ensures the safety of the burden they carry. Of this link the sentiment of brotherhood amongst English-speaking men should form the principal part."

"Work with children" was the subject of a bright address by Miss C. M. Hewins, who dwelt upon the qualifications that should mark the successful children's librarian; and the session was closed by Johnson Brigham, state librarian of Iowa, who spoke of the "Traveling library movement," as developed within the last few years, and the uplifting influence it had exerted throughout scattered communities.

SECOND DAY.

Friday morning's session was opened at 10.15, with brief presentation of announcements and business, preliminary to the separate sessions on Children's work and College and Reference questions. Mr. Andrews made a short report on the handbook of American libraries, based on a telegram received from Mr. Teggart. This included a request that the committee be authorized to print the handbook, provided sufficient subscriptions at \$3 per volume could be secured to cover the cost; also that the expenses of the committee be paid. The report was referred to the council for consideration.

A short recess was then taken, and the Association resolved itself into two sections—one for the consideration of Library work with children, the other a session of the College and Reference Section. Miss Plummer, as vice-president, presided over the former, which was held in Convocation Hall, and was largely attended. The first topic was "Methods of inducing care of books," by Miss Mary E. Dousman, of the Milwaukee Public Library, who found that much of the misuse of books was

due to bad book-making, and the selection of delicately tinted covers by publishers, and "to the lack of training which children receive in the matter of respect for inanimate objects in general." She urged that training in this direction was within the province of the children's librarian, and that a children's department might be one of the strongest centers of influence for inducing proper care of books. Mr. Brett and Mr. Foster spoke on the general subject of Miss Dousman's paper. The second subject before the session was "Children's books and periodicals," presented by Miss Abby Sargent, in a charming paper, full of true literary feeling, which made a strong appeal for higher standards in juvenile literature; this was discussed by H. L. Elmen-dorf, Miss Hewins, and Mrs. Fairchild. "Picture-work in children's libraries" was introduced by Miss Annie Carroll Moore, of Pratt Institute, whose remarks were illustrated by a number of picture bulletins, demonstrating faults and excellences in picture work; while Miss Clara Hunt had a short paper on the subject, deprecating the use of bulletins only as a means of increasing the circulation of what are known as "instructive" books. "Story-telling, lectures, and other adjuncts of the children's library" was the final topic, opened in a paper by Miss Olcott, of Pittsburgh, read by W. R. Watson, which described the broad kindergarten aspect of children's work in Pittsburgh; and the subject was closed by Miss Tobitt, of Omaha, and Miss McCrory, of Cedar Rapids, who spoke of the efforts to reach and interest children made in their respective libraries.

In one of the smaller rooms of the college building the College and Reference Section held a successful meeting with Dr. Richardson as chairman. "The care of continuations and serials" was the first topic, presented by J. T. Gerould, of Columbia University, whose statement of practical methods in this perplexing field evoked general discussion and comparison of experiences. These dealt chiefly with the question of title-pages and indexes, and the putting of all parts or numbers except the last on the shelves with the sets; while as a means of securing the attention of publishers a boycott was proposed against those periodicals not publishing title-pages. "Reference work in the Grosvenor Library" was described by E. P. Van Duzee, who laid emphasis on the importance of the classed catalog in this work and referred to the department system in reference libraries. Miss Isabel Ely Lord gave an interesting exposition of the functions of "The college *vs.* university library," which aroused animated discussion. Her premise was that the college library should be a well-rounded, systematically developed collection, with just enough sources to prepare the student for university work, and that it should weed out, by gift, sale, or otherwise, all material not immediately important in the work of instruction, while the university library, on the other hand, should aim to add all editions and all material, but with co-operation from other libraries as to specialties. This led to a lively debate *pro* and *con* on the advisability of "weeding out" such

collections, in which Dr. Billings, Mrs. Spencer, E. B. Hunt, Johnson Brigham, Mr. Montgomery, and others took part. The meeting throughout held the interest of those present, and it was closed after a prolonged session, with the election of W. I. Fletcher as chairman for the ensuing year.

In the afternoon the Association set business aside, and enjoyed a beautiful trip down the river on the steamer *Duchess of York*, passing through the St. Gabriel Lock, and taking the Lachine rapids on the return. The evening was given up to work with simultaneous section meetings for the Large Libraries and the State and Law Libraries Section. The former were assigned the general meeting hall, where, under the direction of W. H. Brett and Dr. Steiner, topics relating to "Open shelves in the light of actual experience" were presented and discussed. The branches of this subject included a consideration of the classes of literature to which access should be allowed, by S. S. Green, read by Dr. Steiner; "access to a 'standard' library," by W. E. Foster; "access to a selected library," by H. L. Elmendorf, who described the plan followed at Buffalo; and "Qualifications of attendants in open shelf departments," by A. E. Bostwick. There was considerable discussion, especially on the question of book-theft, and the relative culpability of small boys, women, and students, and the familiar subject seemed to hold general interest to a surprising degree.

The State and Law Libraries Section held a capital meeting, with H. A. Huse, state librarian of Vermont, as chairman *pro tem.*, and Miss Mary L. Titcomb as secretary. Papers were read by Dr. G. E. Wire on "State reports, digests, and session laws;" and by C. B. Galbreath, state librarian of Ohio, on "Co-operation of state librarians and state library commissions;" Mr. Dewey spoke on "Lending of books in and out of the capital city," advocating the widest use of the state library by the people of the state; and the discussion of the various topics was general and animated.

THIRD DAY.

Saturday morning was given up to a joint session of the Trustee's Section and the Large Libraries Section, under the direction of W. H. Brett as chairman, and Dr. B. C. Steiner as secretary. The subjects presented were of direct practical interest, relating especially to the business side of library administration. A capital paper on "The trustee" was read by Thomas L. Montgomery, giving a clear, common-sense summary of the place trustees should occupy in library management, and emphasizing the point that close business relations between a librarian and a body of men of affairs, with diverse interests and varying standpoints, ought to bring out the very best qualities of the former and stimulate and strengthen his work. "Spasmodic attendance of trustees at A. L. A. conferences" was regarded as undesirable. "If they wish to study the subject thoroughly and attend the meetings regularly, well and good, otherwise attendance will generally re-

sult in pernicious activity." Dr. B. C. Steiner had a careful study of "What it costs to prepare a book for the public and to keep it before the public;" and an analysis of "The meaning and value of library statistics" was presented by A. E. Bostwick. There was quite general discussion, especially regarding the matter of cost of preparing books, and it was urged that some definite method of securing statistical data on this point be devised and put in operation.

In the afternoon three meetings were held simultaneously. The Trustees' Section had a short session, Mr. Soule presiding, when a series of topics was formulated, to be submitted to the council for discussion at the next conference, and two interesting innovations were the "round table" meetings of the officers and members of state library commissions and the officers of state library associations. It was found that the two latter, while differing widely in the questions to be considered, interested many in almost equal degree, so that it was difficult to choose which one to attend. Both meetings were successful almost beyond expectation. For the state library commission F. A. Hutchins acted as chairman, and 10 states—Vermont, Connecticut, New York, Georgia, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota—were represented by officers of their library commissions. W. R. Eastman presented a paper on the "Essentials of a good library law," outlining the main points deemed necessary in such a measure. A spirited and useful discussion followed, opened by Miss Anne Wallace, who spoke of library conditions in Georgia, and the need of improvement of the state library law. F. A. Hutchins, Mr. Dewey, Mr. Lee, Mrs. Spencer, and Dr. G. E. Wire, also brought forward points of interest and of practical experience. "What lines of work may state library commissions most profitably undertake," a paper by Miss Gratia Countryman, was read by Miss Patten, of Minneapolis, and there was general discussion by Miss Hewins, Mr. Hardy, of Lindsay, Ont., W. R. Eastman, Miss Titcomb, ex-Governor Luce, of Michigan, and others. The meeting of state library association officers was conducted by W. L. R. Gifford, of Cambridge. It was wholly an informal discussion of ways and means by which the associations may do better work and reach into a wider field. The need of *esprit de corps* was emphasized; prompt issue of programs; the choice of speakers among newer and younger people; the suggestion of topics by members, were all touched upon as useful in stimulating interest. The question, "How much time is a busy librarian justified in giving to association action," called forth varying opinions, the general feeling seeming to be that two or three good meetings a year were enough. Mr. Whitney stated that the Boston Public Library had set apart \$100 to enable branch librarians to attend meetings of the state club, and that this had been greatly appreciated. The question of allowance of time and money for state meetings brought replies that showed that about a fifth of those present had time given and ex-

penses paid, while nearly all had their time allowed. Among those who joined in the discussion were Miss Ahern, Dr. Richardson, W. J. James, J. L. Whitney, Miss Browne, H. L. Koopman, and H. M. Utley, and it was voted that the subject be continued on the program of the next conference.

As the various section meetings closed the members gathered about the beautiful oval of the campus, against whose encircling terrace a group photograph, reproduced elsewhere, was taken at half-past five.*

The evening was given up to social enjoyment. A pleasant visit was made to the Library of the Bar of Montreal, in the Court House, where the members were welcomed by Mr. Carter, who gave a most interesting account of French law, and briefly reviewed the history of the library. The Chateau de Ramezay was then visited, where a delightful reception was tendered by the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal. An address of welcome was delivered by Judge Baby, to which response was made by Mr. Thwaites; refreshments were served in the vaulted kitchen underground, with its great oven and dungeon-like walls, and the many interesting features of the old chateau, with the portraits and relics preserved there by the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, were an unfailing enjoyment to the visitors.

FOURTH DAY.

A beautiful Sunday, clear and brilliant, broke the crowded conference days and gave a welcome opportunity for rest—or for the change of occupation that is, after all, the best rest. For careful observation failed to discover any who *rested*, in the sense of the dictionary definition—"to cease from motion." Instead, the A. L. A. turned its activities from Literature to Religion, and pursued the "ecclesiastical features of Montreal," as the program had it, from early dawn until moonrise. One party rested serene in the consciousness of having "done" six churches, until their cup was embittered by meeting a rival group with eleven to its credit; while the entire conference seemed represented at the evening service in the Jesuit Church. The Mountain, too, was the goal of many, who drove, or walked, or went by the incline to delight in the glorious view of the city, and river, and islands and the distant line of the Green Mountains. For all, the day was full of interest and enjoyment, and the change it gave made all more ready to pick up the threads of business on the next morning.

FIFTH DAY.

Business was resumed at 10.30 on Monday, when the Association met in general session to consider further committee reports and local announcements. The report of the Committee on Public Documents was presented by R. R. Bowker, chairman, who reviewed the efforts made during the year to secure passage of the amendatory public documents bill, and noted the various contributions toward public docu-

ment bibliography made within the period. The report closed with the presentation of a resolution expressing the approval of the Association of the amendatory measure, and urging the importance of its passage upon members of the Senate and House of Representatives. The report was adopted and the resolutions were approved and referred to the council for action.

The report of the Committee on Co-operation with the National Educational Association was presented by J. C. Dana, who spoke briefly of the yellow journals and kindred literature as appealing to a class not appealed to before by the printed page and not yet reached by libraries; and who urged that by steady concentrated effort of the libraries through the schools these pernicious influences could be weakened or obliterated. Through the medium of the teachers, also, children could be familiarized with literature, the common heritage of the race, and reason and sound thought might be strengthened and developed until gradually it would be less easy for a demagogue to close an argument by waving a flag. On motion of Mr. Crunden it was voted that a vote of thanks of the A. L. A. be extended to the National Educational Association for the work it has already done toward bringing about closer relations between schools and libraries through the establishment of its Library Section, and the publication of its pamphlet on the subject. It was also voted that the A. L. A. unite with the N. E. A. in the distribution of the pamphlet on the relation of libraries and schools.

For the Committee on International Catalog of Scientific Literature, C. W. Andrews submitted a brief report from Dr. Adler, stating that as no appropriation had been made by Congress to enable the United States to be represented in the enterprise, it had been impracticable for the government to take part in the work at the present time, or to be represented at the final conference to be held in London on June 12, 1900. It was urged that the necessary legislation be secured from Congress. The final report of the Committee on Transliteration of Slavic Languages was also submitted. For the Committee on Library Examinations and Credentials Mr. Brett submitted a brief report, recommending that the matter be considered by the committee on library schools.

A recess of two minutes was taken, during which the Catalogers' Round Table was organized in one of the smaller halls, and the main body then settled down for one of the most interesting features of the program—the presentation of "Canadian library and literary topics." This was opened by James Bain, Jr., with a paper on "Canadian libraries," which was, he said, in a sense, a continuation of the report upon Canadian libraries made by him at the Thousand Islands conference in 1887. Reviewing the library condition of the Dominion, Mr. Bain noted briefly the leading libraries in each province, reviewing also the general library development. He gave the following statistical summary: Nova Scotia, nine libraries, 90,020 volumes; Prince Edward Island, two libraries, 7500 volumes; New Brunswick, six libraries, 50,530 volumes; Quebec, 41 libraries, 670,025

* Copies of this photograph, at \$1.15 each, may be obtained by addressing W. G. Blackie, 1780 Notre Dame street, Montreal.

volumes; Ontario, 439 libraries, 1,287,667 volumes; Manitoba, four libraries, 46,435 volumes; Northwest Territories, one library, 3500 volumes; British Columbia, five libraries, 16,900 volumes; general government libraries, five, with 200,000 volumes. The total for 1900 was 512 libraries with 2,420,577 volumes.

"The Aberdeen Association" was the subject of a most interesting paper, prepared by Miss E. Laidlaw, and read by Mrs. Edwin Hanson, president of that association. The society was established in 1890, through the suggestion of Lady Aberdeen, and its mission is the distribution of attractive literature among the isolated settlers of the Canadian Northwest. Books and periodicals are sent in monthly parcels, for which free carriage has been obtained from the Postmaster-General, and branches of the association have spread from the parent branch of Winnipeg to Halifax, Ottawa, Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton, Victoria, Kingston, Quebec, St. John, and other stations. During the past year 20,000 parcels were sent out, reaching more than 8000 people. Semi-annual letters are required to be exchanged between recipients and the working members, through whom the parcels are sent, and in many cases more frequent correspondence results. Selections from some of the letters were read—touching in their revelation of how much books mean to those in isolation.

"Canadian poetry and poets" were treated by W. D. Lighthall, in a sympathetic review, illustrated by short readings from some of the writers of the second generation of Canadian poets, among them Archibald Lampman, Wilfred Campbell, C. G. D. Roberts, Bliss Carman, and George Scott; while the final paper of the session was a study of "Canadian prose writers," by Dr. S. E. Dawson, of Ottawa, whose brilliant and scholarly presentation of Canada's literary history was listened to with deep interest and sincere appreciation.

The Catalogers' Round Table held an overflowing meeting in the room assigned to it, under the direction of Anderson H. Hopkins, of the John Crerar Library. About 125 persons were in attendance, and there was a steady fire of discussion. No set program had been prepared, but a series of propositions submitted by prominent catalogers had been roughly classified, and were written out on a large blackboard. These were read, discussed on all sides, and votes taken to show the consensus of opinion. The propositions presented dealt with cataloging of anonymous books, entry of society publications, books by several authors, different editions of the same book, titles of noblemen, and various other questions of technical detail. There was not time to dispose of all the subjects brought up in the crossfire of questions and answers, and the meeting adjourned after passing a resolution requesting that a section for the consideration of cataloging and classification be established by the council of the A. L. A.

The afternoon session was opened at 2.30 by a helpful practical talk on "Photographs and photo prints," by C. A. Cutter, who gave many suggestions on the collection, arrangement, and

use of such art material. Then came perhaps the most important feature of the meeting—the special session on "Co-operative cataloging," in which the plans of the co-operation committee* were to be presented and discussed. Dr. E. C. Richardson presided during the session, as vice-president and as chairman of the co-operation committee, and introduced the subject with a general summary of the plans so far developed. The report of the co-operation committee, as printed in advance, was read, and the various recommendations contained therein were discussed. The report dealt with various co-operative plans or enterprises, but its chief feature was its formulation of a scheme for the co-operative cataloging of books for libraries. To this end the committee recommended that the A. L. A. appoint a special committee on cataloging rules, including subject headings, and that it form under the direction of the Publishing Section "a bureau for the co-operative cataloging and printing of cards under guarantee, which bureau shall undertake to catalog promptly or to provide for the cataloging of all books referred to it by co-operating libraries, shall print cards for the same and also any titles sent to it by co-operating libraries, shall keep on file electrotypes of these titles for printing titles to order for libraries in general, shall publish regularly or from time to time a list of the titles in type or to be printed, and may print other material as it may seem fit, and shall be under the direct administration of an officer of the Publishing Section and the librarians of the guaranteeing libraries." The reading of the report was followed by a statement on the "Adjustment and organization" necessary to secure practical success, by W. C. Lane; by a "Report on cost," by C. W. Andrews; and a "Report in cataloging rules," by Miss A. B. Kroeger, to which Miss Nina Browne added a few practical suggestions resulting from her experience with the co-operative cataloging work of the Publishing Section. The whole subject was then discussed with an evident intention of considering a condition rather than a theory, and with a degree of enthusiasm that seemed to show that time was ripe for co-operative effort on a larger scale than has yet been attempted. A show of hands was taken several times to determine how many libraries were prepared either to aid in guaranteeing the enterprise, or to subscribe to the cards, provided they might secure and pay only for those actually desired. To the former question over a dozen gave assent; to the latter there were 50 or more subscribers. The recommendations contained in the report were approved and referred to the council for direct action, and the session closed with a frequently expressed conviction on the part of those in attendance that the A. L. A. had taken a decisive step toward co-operation on a broad and practical scale.

Monday evening was given up to a formal reception tendered to the Library Association by the governors, principals, and fellows of McGill University. There was a large attendance, and the MacDonald engineering building

*See L. J., April, p. 157, 179-80.

was brilliant with lights, and richly decorated with flags and bunting. Here the guests were received in the students' reading-room by Principal and Mrs. Peterson and Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Fleet, and here they experienced again the cordiality of Canadian hospitality. The galleries and corridors and the various departments with their fine appliances were visited and admired, and the evening will be long remembered in the social records of the Association.

SIXTH DAY.

Tuesday was the "last day," and its annals are short and simple. The polls were open from 9 to 10.30 a.m., and at the latter hour the meeting was called to order by President Thwaites for final business and announcements. Secretary Carr reported from the council a recommendation that § 17 of the constitution be amended by striking out the words "of the Association" in line 9, and the recommendation was adopted. The Committee on Resolutions submitted its report, which included a resolution recognizing the library beneficence of Andrew Carnegie, and resolutions expressing appreciation of the cordial welcome and many courtesies extended to the Association by the faculty and officers of McGill University, the Library of the Bar, the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, and the many friends whose thoughtfulness had made the conference so thoroughly a success. The resolutions were adopted by a rising vote.

The result of the election was then announced by the tellers as follows: *President*, Henry J. Carr; *1st vice-president*, Ernest C. Richardson; *2d vice-president*, Mrs. S. C. Fairchild; *Secretary*, F. W. Faxon; *Treasurer*, Gardner N. Jones; *Recorder*, Helen E. Haines; *Trustee of the endowment fund*, George W. Williams; *Council*, C. H. Gould, Caroline M. Hewins, Frank P. Hill, James K. Hosmer, George Iles, Herbert Putnam, Katharine L. Sharp, Charles C. Soule, James L. Whitney. After a few announcements regarding the post-conference trip, the meeting was declared adjourned, subject to the call of the chair, this being a remarkable exception to most conferences in the fact that no unfinished program remained for consideration at the end.

Tuesday afternoon was given up to libraries, to churches, to the Mountain, and to the other "points of interest" indicated in the useful guide books issued by the local committee. Invitations to visit the fine private art galleries of Hon. Senator Drummond, Sir William Van Horn, and Mr. James Ross, had been extended to the Association, and many members enjoyed the beautiful paintings in these rich collections. In the evening there began a post-conference trip that must long stand unequalled for beauty, for variety, for pleasant conditions, and for ever-deepening interest. Two steamers carried the largest post-conference party in the history of the Association from Montreal down the St. Lawrence past Quebec and up the Saguenay. Chicoutimi, Tadousac, Murray Bay were visited, and there was a day and a night at Quebec, to crown the journey; while

for a goodly number a trip to Burlington and down Lake George closed a conference that must always be marked with a white stone in the memory of those who shared in it.

H. E. H.

CONFERENCE NOTES.

One of the interesting events of the meeting was the organization of a Canadian Library Association, to be affiliated with the A. L. A. on the lines of our state associations. A preliminary meeting was held, at which a committee was appointed to report later on organization. James Bain, Jr., of Toronto, was named as chairman, and Mr. E. A. Hardy, of Lindsay, Ontario, was appointed secretary.

A fine exhibit of Canadiana, including many of the manuscript treasures of St. Mary's College, of Montreal, was displayed in the library of McGill University; while an exhibit of library material and appliances was held in Molson Hall. At the latter the bindings displayed by Mr. Cedric Chivers attracted much attention, including as they did many fine and original examples of his "vellucent" bindings, as well as numerous specimens of the "duroflexile" library bindings. Among the libraries exhibiting were the Boston, Buffalo, and Providence public libraries; the New York State Library, Drexel Institute, and Pratt Institute.

A charming souvenir of the conference was the badge presented to each delegate by the local committee. It was in the form of a stick pin, giving the McGill crest in dark red and blue enamel, wholly artistic in coloring and finish. A few of these badges may still be obtained, at 50c. each, by addressing the registrar, Miss Nina E. Browne, A. L. A. Publishing Section, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ Beacon street, Boston, Mass.

TRANSACTIONS OF COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Meetings of the council and executive board of the A. L. A. were held on June 6, June 9, June 11, June 14, and June 15, sessions of the incoming bodies being held on the latter date.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

Place of next meeting: Invitations for the Association meeting of 1901 were presented to the council from Buffalo, N. Y.; Waukesha, Wis.; and Winona Lake, Ind. An invitation was also presented from Los Angeles to meet in that city in 1903. It was voted

That the council, in behalf of the Association, express its cordial thanks to the city of Buffalo for its invitation, with regret that it is impracticable to accept the invitation of Buffalo for the ensuing year;

That the Association hold its meeting in 1901 in a summer resort in the middle west, the choice of the meeting place to be made by the executive board;

That the Association express its thanks to the board of directors of the Los Angeles Public Library for the invitation to meet in that city in 1903.

Nominations for officers for 1900-1901 were made by the council, according to the new constitution. The nominations were made by informal ballot, the ticket including also without

distinction names sent in on nominations signed by five members of the Association.

Secretary's salary: It was voted that the secretary of the Association be paid a salary of \$250 for the ensuing year.

By-laws: It was voted that a committee of three be appointed to prepare by-laws, and that members of the Association are invited to send to this committee suggestions for such by-laws prior to Feb. 1, 1901. The Committee on By-laws was later appointed by the executive board, as follows: F. M. Crunden, W. C. Lane, B. C. Steiner.

Sections: The State Libraries Section and the College and Reference Section were re-established by vote of the council; and a Catalog Section was established, in response to the vote requesting such a section, passed at the Round Table meeting on cataloging topics.

Amendment to constitution: It was voted that the council submit to the Association a recommendation to amend the constitution by striking out the words "of the Association" in line 9 of section 17 of the new constitution. This recommendation was submitted by Secretary Carr to the Association and was adopted on its first reading.

A. L. A. in local associations: It was voted that the council recommend to the executive board to appoint a member of the Association in connection with each local association, and request that member to represent the interests of the A. L. A. in connection with the local association.

That the secretary of the A. L. A. notify the secretary or other executive officer of each state association of the appointment of an A. L. A. representative for that association, and suggest that a place on the program be given from time to time to such representative for the presentation of A. L. A. interests.

Committee on library training: The resolution contained in the report of the Committee on Library Schools was referred to the Committee on By-laws for formulation and report as a by-law. That committee reported such a by-law as follows: There shall be a committee of five members on library training, which shall visit each year the several library schools and training classes as far as possible, make a report on the condition and character of the schools and classes which it visits, and present such recommendations as it sees fit. The formulation was adopted as a by-law, and the following committee was appointed later by the executive board: J. C. Dana, F. M. Crunden, Miss E. C. Doren, F. P. Hill, Miss E. G. Browning.

Library post: The report of the committee on library post, with the resolutions relating thereto, was considered by the council, when arguments in favor of the bill were presented by a member of the New England Educational League. After considerable discussion it was voted that the matter be laid on the table.

Public documents: The resolutions submitted by the Committee on Public Documents were approved, as follows:

Resolved, That the American Library Association, in conference at Montreal, recognizes, with full appreciation, the favorable attention

given to the public documents bill by Senator T. C. Platt, of New York, and Representative J. P. Heatwole, respectively chairmen of the Senate and House committees on printing, and of their colleagues on the joint committee; and that it urges upon members of the Senate and House of Representatives the importance of prompt passage of the measure taking further steps in providing for the better publication and distribution of Government documents, in which the law of 1895 has already effected important and desirable changes."

PROCEEDINGS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Publishing board: W. C. Lane and George Hies were re-elected members of the Publishing Board, to succeed themselves, for terms of three years each.

Finance committee: (J. L. Whitney, C. K. Bolton, G. T. Little) continued.

Gifts and bequests: The appointment of special reporters on gifts and bequests, in accordance with the recommendation contained in the report on the subject, was deferred until the autumn meeting of the board.

Program committee: The president and secretary were appointed program committee for the 1901 conference, with power to add to their number.

Public documents: R. R. Bowker, chairman, with power to appoint two other members.

Foreign documents: (C. H. Gould, C. W. Andrews, L. B. Gilmore, James Bain, Jr.) continued.

Co-operation with Library Dept. of N. E. A.: (J. C. Dana, Melvil Dewey, F. A. Hutchins) continued.

Handbook of American libraries: (F. J. Teggart, T. L. Montgomery, C. W. Andrews) Committee continued and requested to submit estimate of expenses; and authorized to incur only such expenses as may be approved by the executive board. The recommendation regarding publication of the handbook, submitted by the committee, was referred to the Publishing Board with power to act.

Title-pages to periodicals: (W. I. Fletcher, Thorvald Solberg) continued.

Library tracts: Preparation of further numbers in the series transferred to the Publishing Board.

Collection of book statistics: A resolution requesting that action be taken toward securing international standard statistics with reference to the number of books produced in various countries, passed at the Joint Library Meeting in Washington, March 30, 1900, on motion of S. H. Ranck, and transmitted from that body, was approved, and the following committee was appointed: E. C. Richardson, R. R. Bowker, S. H. Ranck.

Co-operative cataloging and cataloging rules: Voted, that the Publishing Board be authorized to appoint from its own number or otherwise a special committee of three on cataloging rules; and to appoint from its own number or otherwise such subsidiary committees as may seem advisable in order to carry into effect recommendations 1 and 2 of section 6 of the report of the co-operation committee for 1900.

Co-operation committee: W. L. R. Gifford, W. R. Eastman, Miss E. C. Doren, J. G. Moulton, Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh.

Terms of councillors: Voted, that the terms of those elected to the council be apportioned as follows:

Term ending 1901: George Hies.

Term ending 1902: Miss C. M. Hewins.

Term ending 1903: F. P. Hill.

Term ending 1904: J. L. Whitney.

Term ending 1905: C. H. Gould, J. K. Hosmer, Herbert Putnam, Miss K. L. Sharp, C. C. Soule.

Place of next meeting: Voted, that the time and place of next meeting be left to the program committee with power to act.

HELEN E. HAINES, *Recorder.*

State Library Commissions.

COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS: C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION. State Library, Des Moines.

KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: G. T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

MICHIGAN F. P. L. COMMISSION: Mrs. M. C. Spencer, secretary, State Library, Lansing.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: A. H. Chase, secretary, State Library, Concord.

NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: H. C. Buchanan, secretary, State Library, Trenton.

The newly-created state library commission held its first meeting on May 22, and organized by electing W. C. Kimball, of Passaic, president, and H. C. Buchanan, state librarian, secretary.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION: Dr. G. E. Reed, secretary, State Library, Harrisburg.

VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock.

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

State Library Associations.

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Herbert E. Nash, Stanford University.

Secretary: J. H. Wood, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

The Library Association of California has issued number 3 of its publications, "Libraries of California in 1899." (San Francisco, April, 1900, 24 p. D.) This is a handbook of the libraries of the state, giving facts and statistics compiled from answers to inquiries sent out in April, 1899. The material is compactly handled, in two divisions—1, libraries outside of San Francisco; 2, libraries in San Francisco—arrangement being alphabetical by place in the first division and by name of library in the second division. The information given includes date of organization, source of income, annual expenditure, expenditure for books, no. volumes, yearly accessions, home circulation, noteworthy features, names and terms of service of librarians, publications, and references to printed accounts of the library or its collections. There are 81 libraries recorded, of which 23 are in San Francisco. These include free public, subscription, college, and society libraries, and the two important private collections, the Bancroft and the Sutro. The information given varies in fulness and value, and it is to be regretted that several libraries are recorded by name only with the note "no returns." In the case of the University of California Library the bibliographical reference to "minor scattered notices" seems rather unsatisfactory. The difficult task of systematizing varied and often inadequate material has been on the whole well carried out, and the handbook will be practically useful much beyond the limits of the association issuing it.

The regular meeting of the Library Association of California was held Friday evening, April 13, at 8 o'clock, at the Mechanics' Institute Library Building, San Francisco, President Herbert C. Nash presiding.

After calling the meeting to order, Mr. Nash, in a few pleasant remarks, introduced himself as the new presiding officer, and expressed his regret that illness had prevented his attendance at the first meeting of his term of office.

In the matter of "Senate bill no. 2667, to establish a library post," the secretary reported having received assurances of support from the following: Senators Perkins and Bard, and Congressmen Loud, DeVries, Metcalf, Waters, Kahn, and Needham.

Prof. L. DuPont Syle, of the University of California then delivered an interesting and able address on "A dramatic critic's library," touching upon the development of the drama from ancient times to the present day.

Prof. Samuel J. Brun followed with "French life and character from the cradle to the grave," in which he dwelt particularly upon the mode of education in vogue in France.

The evening's program concluded with an interesting paper on "Libraries of China," by Frederick J. Teggart, librarian of the Mechanics' Institute.

Considerable discussion was participated in by the members present and many interesting details were given relative to library work in China by Rev. Jee Gam, of the California Congregational Mission, including a complete description of the system of supplying books to the outlying districts.

J. H. WOOD, *Secretary*.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

Secretary: Herbert E. Richie, Public Library, Denver.

Treasurer: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

Secretary: Miss Anna Hadley, Ansonia Library, Ansonia.

Treasurer: Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

The Connecticut Library Association held its spring meeting on May 25 at Stratford, Ct.

Those arriving on the early trains had a chance to inspect the beautiful library building, the gift of Birdseye Blakeman, of New York, a fine portrait of whom, by J. Collin Forbes, hangs in the reading room.

The morning session was opened at 10.45 by two songs, Decker's "Spring" and Tosti's "Could I," by Mrs. William O. Brown.

After the reports of the treasurer and acting secretary, Miss Alice I. Cummings, had been read, the president, W. J. James, reported the resignation of the secretary, Miss Josephine S. Heydrick.

Prof. Addison Van Name, librarian of Yale University, opened a discussion on publisher's series, and among other things said that librarians are largely responsible for the prolongation of series, for collectors care for nothing so common, and every day book-buyers content themselves with a few volumes. Mr. Gay, of the Watkinson Library, Hartford, took the ground that the general public makes too much of a fetish of a series. In the course of his remarks Mr. Gay spoke of series, especially those published in Germany, in which the first part of a book is often published last, others in irregular order, with missing parts on account of the death of the author or editor. His closing suggestion was that all librarians should refuse to take the first part of any series until the end is assured.

W. A. Borden, of the Young Men's Institute of New Haven, read a paper on architectural books for a small library which needs information on building houses and cottages, and books for builders, both with and without original ideas.

A paper by Edward Porritt, of Farmington,

on "Public libraries and local industrial development," was read in his absence by Miss Russell, librarian of the Stratford Library. It said that although English libraries have much to learn from America, in one respect they are far in advance—that of collecting material on local industries. In this country a city is often what commercial or industrial interest has made it, and all matter relating to its history should be preserved. Twenty years hence bicycle and automobile catalogs will be of the greatest interest. When it is known that the library collects such material there will be frequent calls for it, and this is a work in which the smallest library may have a part.

The meeting adjourned, and the members of the association were invited to a luncheon served by the ladies of Stratford.

The afternoon session opened at two o'clock, and after Miss Swan had played several piano selections, Mr. Keogh, of the Yale University Library, explained the superiority of English libraries in industrial subjects by telling of the Technical Education Act, which allows moneys received by the government for duty on wine and whisky to be spent for technical education. A town of 200,000 inhabitants has about \$65,000 for this purpose, and \$7500 of this goes to the public library for technical literature. This is spent by specialists under government auditorship.

A symposium on the problems to be met and solved in a small country library by Miss Mary E. Lyman, of Middlefield; Miss C. Belle Maltbie, of Falls Village; Miss Nellie E. Chaffee, of Moodus; Miss Elizabeth P. Andrews, of Wethersfield; and Miss Laura A. Philbrook, of Middletown, was the means of bringing out many suggestions for co-operative work among libraries, as the cataloging of the most common magazines and a uniform system of classification.

Miss MacColl, of the Stratford High School, spoke of the instructions she is giving her pupils in the use of the card catalog, in connection with their study of Greek history—each pupil being required to make a bibliography of everything that can be found on the subject in the Stratford Library.

After passing a vote of thanks to the ladies of Stratford and to the Stratford Library Association for a delightful day the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held at Winsted.

ANNA HADLEY, *Secretary*.

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Walter B. Hill, University of Georgia, Athens.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Anne Wallace, Carnegie Library, Atlanta.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

Secretary: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

Treasurer: Miss Mary B. Lindsay, Public Library, Evanston.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Helen Gullid, Bloomington.
Secretary: W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie Fatout, Anderson.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. L. R. Gifford, Public Library, Cambridge.

Secretary: F. O. Poole, Boston Athenæum.
Treasurer: Miss Margaret D. McGuffly, Public Library, Boston.

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

Secretary: Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

Treasurer: Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

The annual meeting of the Western Massachusetts Library Club will be held at Shelburne Falls, Mass., on Friday, June 29, 1900.

There will be two sessions, opening respectively at 11.30 a.m. and 2.15 p.m., and the program will include "Reports on the Montreal conference," by several members; "Report of the Post-conference trip," by F. W. Faxon; and a discussion on "What the age limit for registration should be," opened by W. I. Fletcher.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

Treasurer: Miss N. S. Loving, Public School Library, Ann Arbor.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary: Miss Minnie McGraw, Public Library, Mankato.

Treasurer: Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. I. Wyer, State University Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Bertha Baumer, Public Library, Omaha.

Treasurer: Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. H. Chase, Concord.

Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Treasurer: Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. E. C. Richardson, Princeton University Library.

Secretary: Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. J. H. Canfield, Columbia University Library, New York City.

Secretary: Miss M. E. Hazeltine, Prendergast Library, Jamestown.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

Secretary: Miss Martha Mercer, Public Library, Mansfield.

Treasurer: Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Allen C. Thomas, Haverford College, Haverford.

Secretary: Luther E. Hewitt, Law Library, 600 City Hall, Philadelphia.

Treasurer: Miss Mary Z. Cruice, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

Secretary: Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

Library Clubs.

BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

Secretary: Mrs. C. A. Fuller, Oxford, Mass.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

President: H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Ella M. Edwards, Buffalo Historical Society.

The Library Club of Buffalo held its last meeting for the season on May 16 in the children's rooms of the Buffalo Public Library. The occasion was almost exclusively a social one, the only business transacted being the election of officers for the coming year.

The officers elected were: President, H. L.

Elmendorf, Buffalo Public Library; Vice-president, E. P. Van Duzee, Grosvenor Library; Secretary-treasurer, Ella M. Edwards, Buffalo Historical Society. ANNIE S. WOODCOCK.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. B. Wickersham, Public Library, Chicago.

Secretary: Miss Margaret Zimmerman, John Crerar Library.

Treasurer: C. A. Torrey, Chicago University Library.

LONG ISLAND LIBRARY CLUB.

President: A. E. Bostwick, Brooklyn Public Library.

Vice-President: Miss Mary W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Free Library.

Secretary: Miss S. A. Hutchinson, Department Libraries, Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

Treasurer: Miss Mabel Farr, Adelphi College.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, May 15, 1900, a meeting of the librarians of the borough of Brooklyn was held at 80 St. James Place, the home of Miss Mary Plummer, librarian of the Pratt Institute Free Library, for the purpose of considering the organization of a local library club. Miss Plummer was appointed temporary chairman. The project was informally and freely discussed by all present, and the sentiment being unanimously in favor of such a club, a committee on constitution was appointed and the meeting adjourned until 3.30 p.m., Wednesday, May 23.

On that date, at the Pratt Institute Free Library, a second meeting was held, at which a constitution was adopted and the officers named above were elected. Meetings of the club will be held on the first Thursday of each October, December, February, April, and May, at such time and place as the executive committee may appoint. The object of the club is to promote co-operation among the libraries represented in the club and to enlarge and perfect the library facilities of the borough of Brooklyn and of the surrounding towns and villages.

SUSAN A. HUTCHINSON, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Wilberforce Eames, N. Y. Public Library.

Secretary: Miss B. S. Smith, Harlem Library.

Treasurer: Miss Theresa Hitchler, Brooklyn Public Library.

The 15th annual meeting of the New York Library Club was held at the Aguilar Free Library, May 10, 1900, at 3 p.m. Dr. Billings presided. The annual elections resulted as follows: President, Wilberforce Eames; 1st vice-president, Dr. H. M. Leipziger; 2d vice-president, Miss E. L. Foote; Secretary, Miss B. S. Smith; Treasurer, Miss Theresa Hitchler. The regular program was opened with a paper on "Early American imprints," by Mr. W. J. James.* Miss Foote followed with a paper

on "Apprentices in libraries." This subject was continued by Miss Hitchler, after which there was a general discussion. The program closed with "Volumes on circulation, a study in percentages," by Mr. Bostwick.

A vote of thanks was passed for the courtesy shown the club by the Aguilar Library.

EDWIN A. GAILLARD, *Secretary pro tem*.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: H. L. Prince, Librarian U. S. Patent Office.

Secretary: W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

Treasurer: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

Meetings: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

The 48th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University, Wednesday evening, May 9, 1900, with the president, Howard L. Prince, in the chair.

The executive committee reported the election to membership of Mr. H. L. Stine.

The first paper of the evening was by Mr. Fred. E. Woodward, on "Recent successful American writers," being a review of the subject indicated, together with interesting figures relating to book production in this and other countries and a comparison of the same.

The second paper was by Mr. Paul Brockett, on "The printing exposition at New York." After describing the general features of the exhibition, Mr. Brockett gave briefly some data concerning the inventors of printing and engraving and the progress of the printing art.

On motion of Mr. Parsons a vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Brockett for his paper. Informal talks were made by Dr. Adler, and by Dr. Friedenwald on the method of preserving manuscripts.

The association will meet again in October.

WM. L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

CLEVELAND SUMMER SCHOOL.

The Cleveland Public Library will conduct a summer course of library training from July 23 to Sept. 1, 1900.

This course is planned for the benefit of assistants in public libraries, for eligible applicants for positions in the Cleveland Public Library, and for librarians of small libraries, and the aim will be to give as thorough a course of technical library training as can be compressed into six weeks of close work. In all cases where the subject admits, instruction will be accompanied by practice work which will be carefully revised and criticised. Miss Esther Crawford, head cataloger of the Dayton Public Library, will be principal instructor, assisted by Miss Eastman and Miss Tyler, of the Cleveland Public Library. Special lectures by outside lecturers will be arranged for. Tuition fees will be \$15 for the course, and \$10 will probably cover the cost of supplies. Application blanks and further information may

*Mr. James's paper was printed in full in the *Publishers' Weekly* for May 19.

be obtained by addressing W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The year's work in the library school has drawn to a successful close, the following graduates having received certificates at the commencement exercises of the Institute, June 8: Adeline S. Brown, Greta E. Brown, Elizabeth V. Clarke, Florence L. Drinker, Charlotte E. Evans, Charlotte K. Hannum, Bessie H. Jennings, Virginia M. Keyes, Helene A. Kingman, Emily J. Kuhn, Katharine S. Leiper, Caroline F. Webster, Florence E. Wheeler, Beulah S. White.

Of these Miss Leiper has already received an appointment as shelf-lister in the Library of the University of Pennsylvania, while others of the same class have positions in prospect.

The picture bulletins prepared as problems by the class, and exhibited in the library, have attracted much attention and favorable comment for their originality, practical utility, and artistic treatment. Among the most timely subjects chosen for illustration were: Paris and the Exposition, the South African war, Recent inventions (wireless telegraphy, inkless printing, and liquid air), and some out-of-door themes. These bulletins were sent to Montreal for exhibition at the American Library Association conference.

A new feature in the work of the school this year has been the bi-weekly report of current events in the library world. Such periodicals as the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, *Public Libraries*, *Library*, *Critic*, *Bookman*, *Publishers' Weekly*, and many other prominent weekly and daily papers, were assigned in turn to individual members of the class, whose duty it was to read and report upon all items of interest in library matters, and to give a brief summary of the leading articles in the journals devoted exclusively to library topics. These reports, alternating with similar summaries of library bulletins and reports, have done much to keep the students informed upon events and topics of current interest to the profession, and at the same time have made them familiar with the character and arrangement of the contents of the respective periodicals, bulletins and reports.

Miss Julia W. Blandy, class of '97, has received an appointment in the Library of Congress.

Miss Elizabeth S. Ingersoll, class of '99, has received an appointment in the library of Cornell University.

A circular has just been issued by the school giving a list of positions held by the graduates since June, 1893.

The library school was organized in November, 1892, with a class of 10 students. Since that date there have been enrolled in the class 142 students, including those taking the full and special courses in library science. The graduates of the full course number 110. In addition, six partial certificates were granted to students of the first and second classes who had completed either the course in cataloging or that in library economy. After June, 1894, the certificates for partial courses were discontinued.

20 students are now admitted to the school each year.

Alice B. Kroeger, *Director*.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

In place of the annual visit to prominent libraries, during the third term, the class elected this year to attend the A. L. A. conference at Montreal. With the director and several of the instructors the students went to Albany (in advance of the New York party), where they were very cordially welcomed and entertained by the State Library School. The director of the Drexel Institute Library School and the director and several students from the Illinois State University School were also guests at Albany. An informal reception, addresses by Mr. Dewey, Miss Sharp, Miss Kroeger, Mrs. Fairchild, and Miss Plummer, a call on Governor Roosevelt, visits to places of historic interest in the city, and a reception at Mr. Dewey's home, more than filled the time allotted to the stay at Albany. Several of the class returned to New York, while the rest went on to Montreal. Some of the students also took the post-conference trip up the Saguenay. Those who have returned are enthusiastic in their account of the entire trip of the conference, and of the courtesy and hospitality everywhere extended to them.

Miss Mary A. Kingsbury, class of '99, has been appointed librarian of the Erasmus Hall High School of Brooklyn.

Miss Caroline L. Koster, class of '93, and of 1900—Course for Children's Librarians—has been appointed secretary and librarian of the Kindergarten Department of Pratt Institute, her work beginning Sept. 1.

Miss Louise Mears, of the library staff, has been granted a year's leave of absence in order to take the course for the training of children's librarians in the Pratt Institute Library School next year.

Miss Norma B. Bennett, class of 1900, will take the place of Miss Mears, assistant in the children's room, during the latter's leave of absence for one year.

Ten members of the first-year class have acted as visitors to the Home Library circles organized by the Library Chapter of the Pratt Institute Neighborhood Association. They feel that the experience has been very helpful. Two other members of the class have taken charge of the City Park Mission each Friday evening during the year.

Miss Mary Frances Isom, class of 1900, goes to Cleveland as assistant in the summer library school of the Cleveland Public Library.

Miss May W. Allen, class of 1900, has been appointed assistant in the Brooklyn Institute Library.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

Mr. Joseph C. Rowell, librarian of the University of California, called upon us, May 16, and introduced us pleasantly to the library life of the Pacific coast.

SUMMER COURSE.

The following students began a six weeks' course of study May 31:

Allen, Jessie, Indianapolis, Ind., assistant Indianapolis Public Library;

Arrison, Mary Amanda, Oxford, N. Y., librarian Oxford Library;

Belding, Mrs. Ellinor Frost, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., assistant Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie;

Brown, Eurydice Ames, Jamestown, N. Y., assistant Jamestown High School Library;

Burrage, Alice, West Newton, Mass., assistant West Newton branch of Newton Free Library;

Clark, Mrs. Jennie Coe, Amsterdam, N. Y., librarian Amsterdam Free Library;

Cooney, Alice Elizabeth, Coxsackie, N. Y., assistant Coxsackie High School Library;

Cummings, Charles L., Braddock, Pa., assistant Carnegie Library, Braddock;

Dean, Mary Bunn, Amsterdam, N. Y., assistant Amsterdam Free Library;

Drury, Francis K. W., New Brunswick, N. J., B. A. Rutgers College, 1898, assistant Gardner A. Sage Library, Theological Seminary, New Brunswick;

Dunton, Charlotte Augusta, North Adams, Mass., ex-librarian North Adams Public Library;

Duval, Linda May, Delaware, O., B.L. Ohio Wesleyan University, 1879, assistant Ohio Wesleyan University Library;

Erwin, Mrs. Julia Gazeley, Painesville, O., librarian Painesville Public Library;

Evans, George Hill, Hanover, N. H., B.L. Dartmouth College, 1899, assistant Dartmouth College Library;

Freeman, Marilla Waite, Michigan City, Ind., Ph.B. University of Chicago, 1897, librarian Michigan City Public Library;

Hawkins, Eleanor Elizabeth, Buffalo, N. Y., assistant Buffalo Public Library;

Horton, Antoinette Silkman, Katonah, N. Y., assistant Katonah Village Improvement Soc. Library.

Monchow, Carrie Mavis, Dunkirk, N. Y., librarian Brooks Memorial Library, Dunkirk.

Peyma, Charlotte Jetske van, Buffalo, N. Y., assistant Buffalo Public Library;

Piehl, Emma Wilhelmine, Westfield, N. Y., assistant Patterson Library, Westfield;

Quidor, Emma Jane, Palisades, N. Y., librarian Palisades Library;

Smiley, Annette L., New York, assistant Y. M. C. A. Library, New York;

Thomas, Anna Belle, Youngstown, O., assistant Reuben McMillan Free Library, Youngstown;

Treder, Oscar Frederick Rudolph, Annandale, N. Y., librarian St. Stephen's College, Annandale;

Wilde, Alice, New York, assistant Washington Heights Free Library, New York;

Wilkerson, Elizabeth Brinkley, Memphis, Tenn., B.A. Vassar College, 1898, assistant Cossitt Library, Memphis.

Wilkes, Edna Major, Brewster, N. Y., librarian Brewster Public Library.

Wood, Mildred Cooper, Cleveland, O., librarian Woodland branch Cleveland Public Library.

The class is the largest of the summer course classes thus far.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The senior class of the library school of the University of Illinois recently made a visit of inspection to the libraries of Chicago and vicinity. The most notable libraries were studied as types of their special lines. In the Chicago Public Library was seen the working of a great library supported by public tax and meant to serve the general public. The large endowment library was well illustrated by the Newberry and John Crerar. The Newberry is of interest as an example of the room library, having the books on one subject in one room with attendants in charge who are specially informed upon their different subjects. The John Crerar is a type of the reference library devoted to one subject—science, and was of special interest to the students because of the elaborate methods of administration in operation there. The libraries of the University of Chicago and the Northwestern University were studied as widely different types of university libraries, the University of Chicago having an elaborate system of departmental libraries, and the Northwestern showing a university library doing efficient and valuable work on a very economical basis. The visit to Scoville Institute, at Oak Park, was especially profitable. There the class had an opportunity for seeing a great amount of work done for the public with a small amount of funds. The work with the children was especially interesting, as it is here, probably, that the best work of this kind in the state is being done. At the Evanston Public Library the class also saw excellent children's work, the work with the schools being a notable feature of the library. The libraries in connection with the Field Columbian Museum and the Art Institute were interesting as examples of working libraries in special subjects.

The class also visited several binderies, Hull House, the library at the Cook county jail, the Seamen's libraries of the Chicago Christian Endeavor Union, and the Cartwright Library at the Jones School, which reaches one of the poorest quarters of the city.

Reviews.

BOWKER, R. R., (ed.) State publications: a provisional list of the official publications of the several states of the United States from their organization. Part I: New England states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut. N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1899. 6 + 100 p. O.

"A provisional list" is the modest description of a work inspired by high professional intelligence. The first general bibliography of the sort was the list of state publications given in the appendix to the "American Catalogue, 1884-90." The supplement to the "American Catalogue, 1890-95" contained a similar list. A third is now begun, and Part I, for New England, compiled by Miss Frances B. Hawley, is submitted. Extra margins to the pages invite librarians to co-operate by additions from their

own lists. Considerable information could thus be added for the general benefit, since no amount of unaided care could cover the ground.

In the bibliography the issues of each state are kept distinct. The entries have been so arranged that it is easy to find what has been listed on any given subject. The first general division concerns CONSTITUTIONS. This is followed by EXECUTIVE AND STAFF, INSPECTION AND REGULATION, INSTITUTIONS, JUDICIARY, LEGISLATURE, MISCELLANEOUS OR SPECIAL ISSUES. The title, SUPPLEMENTARY, covers the pre-state period, colonial or territorial. These divisions are so happy that they need little explanation. INSTITUTIONS includes both state establishments and societies with state relations. Some subjects might be looked for under a number of titles, and some, although closely related, fall under distinct titles. This is unavoidable; but the alertness of the editor and compiler has reduced the inconvenience to a minimum by catch-words or italics, or sometimes by a cross-reference. Under JUDICIARY are the leading reports of decisions, digests, rules of court. Under LEGISLATURE are laws, compilations and digests, laws on special subjects, also journals and legislative documents, manuals, reports. Under MISCELLANEOUS OR SPECIAL ISSUES is a list of great value, including reports of special commissions and similar material. The publications under this head are arranged by subjects, and the ease with which they may be picked out is amazing.

Publications are listed according to the office from which they issue. Thus in Massachusetts we find agricultural matters under EXECUTIVE AND STAFF, sub-title *Secretary of the Commonwealth*; under INSPECTION AND REGULATION, sub-title *Agriculture*, and sub-title *Labor*; under INSTITUTIONS, sub-title *Agriculture*; and under LEGISLATURE, sub-title *Agricultural School*. Under EXECUTIVE AND STAFF, sub-title *Attorney-General*, are given reports of a number of trials. Under LEGISLATURE, sub-title *Miscellaneous docs., Reports, etc.*, are a number of contested elections. Corporation matters of one kind or another are found under EXECUTIVE AND STAFF, sub-titles *Secretary of the Commonwealth, Tax Commissioner, Treasurer, and Receiver-General*; under INSPECTION, in several places; under LEGISLATURE, *Laws (special)*. Reports, etc., with respect to certain companies, may be found under LEGISLATURE, *Miscellaneous documents, Reports, etc.*

The development of constitutional law, the elevating efforts in penal institutions, the experiences in labor and other sociological matters, the improvements in agriculture, the progress in sanitary science, in banking and finance, in education, commerce, transportation, mines and mining, in insurance, in law and police—all these have had more or less presentation in state publications. To librarians, the present list is doubly valuable in the attention it draws to gaps in their own collections. It is to be hoped that the excellent and worthy undertaking thus so well begun will be sustained, and that it will result in a satisfactory bibliography of state publications throughout the Union.

L. E. HEWITT.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

O'DONOVAN, Rev. J. F., S.J. Catholics and public libraries. (*In Messenger of the Sacred Heart*, May, 1900. 25:453-460.)

Father O'Donovan is the compiler of the list of Catholic books in the Enoch Pratt Free Library, noted in the L. J. for March, and the conclusions of this article are derived largely from his study in preparing that catalog. He complains of the arrangement of books on religion in library catalogs where the works of rationalists and others appear in the same list or group with those of the adherents of Catholic doctrine. He gives statistics along this line from his study of the finding-lists and catalogs of 10 libraries, in all of which books opposed to Catholicism are arranged with those favorable to that church. "The one remedy," he thinks, "for the evil, and the only remedy, is to issue a catalog for the use of Catholics in each city where there is a public library. The chaff must be winnowed from the wheat, the truth must be separated from falsehood. We cannot, with any show of reason, request librarians to issue a separate catalog for Catholics. This would necessarily lead to trouble, for all the sects would then have a perfect right to demand a series of similar lists. The outlay of money necessary for so many catalogs would be enormous, and, as every new accession of works would demand a new list, the expenditures for such articles would render it impossible for the librarian to purchase books in large quantities. The evident absurdity of such a request is, therefore, too glaring to be even considered. We must make our own catalogs."

LOCAL.

Atlanta, Ga. Carnegie L. On May 15 ground was broken for the new library building, the first shovelful of earth being removed by Miss Anne Wallace.

Barre (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt., 1899; in Annual official reports of the town.) Added 389; total not given. Issued, home use 9167 (fict. 4854). Attendance in reading-room 4031; attendance in children's room 2190. Receipts \$975.43; expenses \$915.47.

The circulation shows an increase of 1974 over the previous year. "The children's reading-room has proved a decided success. Regarded at the first somewhat as an experiment it is evidently to prove a permanent and valuable feature of our library." The Browne charging system has been adopted. Membership in the Library Art Club has been continued, and several good art exhibits have thus been held.

Brookline (Mass.) P. L. (43d rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, 1900.) Added 4441; total 53,513. Issued, home use 104,454, of which 1336 were sent to the public schools. Of the 99,610 v. drawn directly from the delivery-desk 67,678 v. were fiction. Receipts \$14,638.81; expenses \$14,615.61.

Much attention is given to the work inaugurated under the direction of Miss H. H. Stanley, school-reference librarian, in the special school-reference room opened Oct. 2, 1899. This room is opened from 2 to 6 o'clock on week-day afternoons and from 9 to 12 also on Saturday mornings, and is in charge of Miss Stanley, who explains the use of reference books and otherwise assists the children constantly referred to the room by their teachers to look up topics of study.

"The bulk of the books in this room were selected for supplementary reading in connection with school lessons. Besides the children using reference books, others flock to the room to read along the lines of their studies, both at the recommendation of their teachers, and also of their own inclination, and Miss Stanley helps them select books suited to their wants. The attendance during the four months the room has been open amounted to 3695 readers. It is steadily growing, and it is interesting to note that an increasingly large proportion of the children come with a definite purpose. In morning hours the school-reference room is at the service of teachers wishing to bring classes to the library for study of particular subjects." The books in this collection are also issued for use in the schools, and the school-reference librarian plans to make frequent visits to the schools to secure closer contact with the teachers. She also delivers lectures on books and their care to the children. The children's reading-room has also maintained its popularity, and neither this nor the school-reference room is large enough to accommodate all the children who come to the library.

Free access to the shelves is allowed to all borrowers over 18 years of age, and the system is much appreciated. The report contains several illustrations, among them an interesting photograph of the ingenious cabinets devised by Mr. Wellman for holding photographs or other art reproductions.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. The library held a meeting to celebrate the establishment of its East Branch, 29 Pennsylvania ave., on Tuesday evening, May 8. This branch has been open since October, 1899, and is regarded as one of the most successful of the library's branches.

At the March meeting of the trustees an informal discussion was held on the possibility of securing a large central library building, to be the basis of the branch work now being developed. It was suggested that effort be made to secure a special appropriation for this purpose.

At the May meeting of the trustees the subject of a new central building was still further considered. The matter of securing a site was discussed, and it was decided that the site should be at or near Prospect Park.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) Union for Christian Work F. L. (Rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 3030; total 43,556. Issued, home use 206,819, an increase of 3900 over the previous year. "Except to teachers in our schools we

allow only one book each day to our clients. Our reading-room has been used by over 15,000 persons. We have received during the year from the city treasury \$5000, from the treasury of the Union for Christian Work \$1500, and from the Library Department of the University of the State of New York \$100. With these sums and receipts from library fines and gifts of books we have added over 3000 books this year, paid salaries, cost of catalog cards, and expense of re-binding a large number of books."

Butte (Mont.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending March 31, 1900.) Added 2800; total 26,984. Issued, home use 90,019; lib. use 47,143; ref. room attendance 20,212. New cards issued 2009; cards in use 5124.

Chelsea (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 733; total 17,500. Issued, home use 70,115 (fict. 62.37%; juv. 20.27%); called for in reading-room 7384. Sunday attendance 486. New registration 597; total cards in use 4905.

Chicago, Ill. John Crerar L. (5th rpt., 1899.) Added 12,360; total 55,223. Recorded use 20,901; attendance 34,827. Total issue of library may be estimated at over 80,000 books and periodicals. Comparison of statistics shows a steady increase in the use of the library, especially in the evening attendance. The year's purchases were 6623 volumes, costing \$14,148.91. Notable accessions include Muybridge's "Animal locomotion," and about 450 volumes and pamphlets from the library of the late Anatole Montaiglon. A collection of some 1500 volumes and pamphlets on subjects connected with transportation has been given by the publishers of the *Railway Age*. In the cataloging department it has been possible not only to keep up the current work, but also to largely reduce the accumulation of uncataloged volumes. Preparations have also been made for an alphabetical subject catalog. In addition, the library has furnished 545 titles for the co-operative analysis of serials, receiving 3,799 cards in return. Two bulletins containing "List of books in the reading-room," and "A list of periodicals currently received," are now in preparation. The record of loss of books during the five years of the library's history is only 13 volumes. The facilities of the library are to be increased by the addition of a large room on the fifth floor, providing a room for valuable books, administration, storage, and shelf rooms. The financial condition of the library is also improved, owing to the reinvestment of funds. Increased value of securities has effected the endowment fund, and the surplus over the running expenses makes it possible to add over \$60,000 to the building fund.

Chicago, Newberry L. (Rpt., 1899.) Added 5772 v.; 1957 pm. Total 220,258. No. readers 76,368, of whom 49,651 were men; no. books consulted 124,131. "The genealogic index, numbering now a half-million entries, continues to draw to the library a large number of persons interested in genealogy, while the correspondence of this department is more than

double what it was last year. The blue print catalog of 'Academica' from the British Museum Accessions has been completed, and a copy of it has been forwarded as a part of our exhibit at the Paris Exposition."

Cincinnati (O.) P. L. A children's room was opened in the library on May 14. It was established largely through the generous aid of Mr. Frank Wiborg, of Cincinnati, and contains about 3000 volumes on open shelves.

Clarion, Pa. On May 12 the offer of Andrew Carnegie to give \$16,000 for a public library on the usual conditions, was accepted by a vote of 313 to 33.

Cleveland, O. The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* has started in its Sunday issue a column devoted to "Libraries," and conducted by W. H. Brett. While it is especially a medium for interesting news and notes regarding the Cleveland Public Library, it contains also much general library information.

Concord (N. H.) P. L. (43d rpt., 1899.) No tabulated statistics of accessions, issues, borrowers, etc., are given. The librarian, however, states that "over 90,000 books were issued from the delivery desk," and that the percentage of fiction is 78. It is said that although only 500 new borrowers have been registered the need of more space is already beginning to be felt, especially in the work with the children. Through the Library Art Club the library has been able to give several interesting art exhibitions.

Des Moines (Ia.) P. L. (8th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 2237; total 26,391. Issued, home use 133,840; ref. use 20,817; (fict. 33.97%; juv. 22.93%.) New cards issued 1858; total cardholders 11,613.

The detailed statistics of accessions, etc. show 21 books lost and paid for, 59 lost, and 179 missing. "The unusually large number of books lost," says Miss McLoney, "is without doubt to be attributed to thefts from the open shelves of the general library. Of those missing, some number, greater or less, is being brought to light almost daily from some source and many of these will be recovered by the library; but in the case of those reported lost the loss may be considered permanent. Several months ago it was discovered that the library was losing books in the way referred to, and an attempt was made to locate the offenders and recover the books. A search through the second-hand stores of the city resulted in the discovery of about 20 volumes, but no trace of the guilty persons was found. The books recovered had been skilfully treated for the purpose of removing the stamps and labels of the library, and only those familiar with the general appearance of the books could have located them as library property." The losses are almost entirely in the classes fiction and juvenile.

The report includes a list of the various library records necessary in administration, with brief explanations. The chief need is more money for the purchase of books; and the

establishment of a school duplicate collection is recommended.

The corner-stone of the new library building was laid on May 19.

Gloversville (N. Y.) P. L. (20th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, 1900.) Added 1251; total 18,167. Issued home use 63,438; lib. use 5182. Reading room attendance 33,019.

An interesting report. Mr. Peck touches upon a matter important to the smaller libraries when he refers to the fact that 59 of the year's accessions were replacements of worn-out books and that 212 v. "represent duplicates purchased to satisfy the demand for popular books. By these figures it can be readily seen that the library has been spending \$207.35 for duplication and replacement, and that the balance available for the purchase of new publications would have been entirely insufficient had it not been for the generosity of friends." He continues: "The question arises, how far is it advisable for an institution of limited means to furnish in sufficient numbers books momentarily popular so as to satisfy the demand for the book of the hour? Is it wise to purchase a large number of copies of 'David Harum,' 'Richard Carvel,' 'Janice Meredith,' 'Young April' and others to the exclusion of books of greater value? Is it not preferable to supply these books in comparatively smaller numbers not exceeding from three to five copies and to direct the popular demand to the bookstore? I question very much whether it is the function of a public library to satisfy beyond a certain limit this craving for the latest book. The St. Louis Public Library seems to have found a way out of the difficulty by demanding a certain sum for the loan of special duplicates of new and popular books. I have refrained from recommending any such process on account of the seeming discrimination in favor of those who are able to pay."

The circulation shows a decrease during the last five months of the year. Up to that time the library maintained a slight increase in its circulation, "but from that time on there has been a steady contraction of the number of books issued, although the number of readers has increased and the library register shows 608 names added. I have repeatedly called attention to the fact that a large circulation is by no means a criterion of the work done by a library. I for one am well pleased with this diminished circulation, as the decrease is in the department of popular fiction only, and I find that there is an increase in the number of books issued from the other departments. A careful examination of the journal discloses the fact that the circulation of the higher grade books has grown nearly 1000 volumes, and naturally there is no right to expect that the circulation would gain in number if books of a higher character are read. Since Sept. 1 the 'Elsie' and the 'Mildred' books have been entirely withdrawn from circulation. This step alone, however, had a tendency to improve the general character of reading, even in the department of fiction, although it may have

caused a decrease in the number of books issued."

Haverhill (Mass.) P. L. (25th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 3080; total "about 60,000." Issued 124,494 (fict. 78%). No. cardholders 9219.

The year was marked by the retirement of Edward Capen, for many years librarian, and the appointment of John G. Moulton, formerly of the Brockton Public Library. The home circulation has shown an increase of 17,426 v. This "was due partly to special efforts made to attract readers to the library. As the restriction of an age limit for children has been removed, the number of very young readers has been increased. In the school delivery system teachers have been given as many books as were needed, instead of 15 as formerly, and the resulting increase in circulation has led to difficulty in filling orders, thus emphasizing the need of extensive additions to the children's department. In order to interest the teachers the librarian has given talks before them on children's reading and the use of the reference library." Various changes, with a view to public comfort, have also been made in the arrangements, extra "students' cards" have been issued, new books advertised, etc.

A review of the changes made at the library within the past three months is given in the *Haverhill Evening Gazette* of May 18. These include the establishment of a newspaper reading room and the opening of a children's department in the former reading room. Among the necessary repairs were changes in the heating apparatus, new floor timbers for the entire front of the basement, new plumbing in the public lavatories and painting of all the rooms in the basement story. On this floor are the public lavatories, the magazine room, the bound newspaper room, the government document room, the accession room and the newspaper reading room. All the magazines in the library are now arranged in the magazine room, which has had its shelving capacity increased by several thousand volumes.

The most important change in the basement is the newspaper reading room. This is a large room in the southeast corner, reached by the main stairway from the first floor, and having also an entrance in the rear. It is one of the brightest and most cheerful rooms in the building. The walls have been painted a cool, restful green, and the ceiling and woodwork cream. It will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. except Sundays and holidays.

On the first floor the reference room has been altered with special view to the needs of students. It has been made more quiet by being shut off from the loan department by glass doors, and free access is given to about 1500 books. Books for the High school pupils are reserved in this room for purposes of study.

At the delivery desk the iron screen has been removed, and bookcases have been placed at each side of the desk, which are kept filled with new and interesting books from which readers may make selections. Several bulletin

boards have been placed on the walls and the card catalog has been removed from the reference room to the delivery room, and arranged in a new cabinet with removable small drawers.

The most important innovation, and the most attractive room in the library, is the children's room on the second floor. This was formerly the reading room, and has been entirely redecorated in harmonious colors. Bookcases of dark oak, five feet high, have been built around the room against the walls, and on these are about 4000 volumes of books for children. Access is free to the shelves and books are issued and returned in the room.

Kansas. State library association proposed. A meeting of those interested in library work was held on May 17 in the office of State Librarian James L. King. The meeting had for its object the ultimate formation of a Kansas state library association. A committee consisting of Mrs. Diggs, Miss Adams, and J. L. King was appointed to confer with the librarians of the state.

Malien (Mass.) P. L. (22d rpt.—year ending Dec. 1, '99.) Added 2,754; total 36,014. Issued, home use 127,940 (fict. 75.51%), of which 41,739 were from children's room; lib. use 6847. Cards in use 21,337. Receipts \$16,198.84; expenses \$15,158.90.

Five local delivery stations established in April have proved most successful. Several attractive exhibitions have been given through the Library Art Club.

Manila. Philippine Is. The statement that the U. S. Congress had appropriated \$5000 for the support of an American library at Manila, made in L. J., May, p. 246, was an error. The appropriation was approved by the Senate but failed to pass the House, and was stricken out in conference.

Medford (Mass.) P. L. (44th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, 1900.) Added 1490; total 21,361. Issued, 74,600, probably including both home and reference use. The percentage of adult fiction is 66%; of juv. fict., 55%. New registration 1038; total registration 6835. Receipts \$7422.01; expenses \$7421.63.

The necessity for a large amount of rebinding and replacement and the consequent expense in this direction have reduced the purchases of new books to a rather discouraging extent. Comparative figures of adult and juvenile reading show that "in the department of literature and natural science the children are far ahead of their elders, and exceed them also in their reading of periodicals, biography, geography and travels, and fine and useful arts."

The children's room has proved most satisfactory, and definite effort has been made to encourage habit of study and of good reading. The picture exhibits, held through the Library Art Club, have been found of general interest.

Michigan City (Ind.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending April 30, 1900.) Added 1154; total 5476. Issued, home use 36,053. Cards in use 1689.

The class-room established in the library has proved of service in school work. "During the four months in which the room has been available, it has been occupied 35 afternoons and 1826 books have been used by the grades in their visits."

"We have found no more successful way of attracting the interest of the children and young people to the library, and through them, the parents, than by the holding of occasional 'special days.' Each addition to the Ford Memorial collection has been made the occasion of a special children's day, which has, in every case, been enthusiastically attended." Especially notable was "Indian day," held on Oct. 21, when an interesting loan exhibit of Indian curios and relics was made.

Milwaukee, Wis. At the biennial meeting of the Federation of Women's Clubs, to be held in Milwaukee in June, a bureau of library information will be conducted under the direction of Miss L. E. Stearns. It will include a library exhibit arranged for club women who are working for public or travelling libraries. Library laws in various states, sample lists of books, and sample cases of travelling libraries and of travelling pictures will be shown.

New York City. The Board of Education proposes to establish in the early autumn a system of free libraries and reading-rooms in the public schools of the city. At first the libraries will be open to the public only in a few schools in the tenement house districts. A room in a school building, suitable for a reading-room, will be fitted with shelves for books, and a librarian will be placed in charge. If the plan is successful it is hoped to make it a feature of the general public school system.

New York City, East Side House. Webster F. L. The appointment of an assistant librarian was recently decided upon, and the trustees have issued a circular setting forth the conditions of the appointment. The assistant librarian is to be specially charged with supervising the work in the library of public school students, who are making use of the library in connection with their school work. "The salary will be at the rate of \$600 per annum. The assistant librarian will be expected to go in residence at the East Side House and to interest himself in the work of the settlement. Candidates must be graduates of a college or have taken a course in a professional school. Candidates must submit letters of recommendation from one or more officers of the college or professional school where they have studied. They will be required to submit a paper with answers to questions prepared by two examiners, to be hereafter named, upon the following subjects:

- "1. College settlements and their relation to churches, schools, and other means of social reform and training;
- "2. The method in which a circulating library in a city can be made most useful to the public schools in the neighborhood;
- "3. General information regarding current topics.

"A statement of their experience tending to qualify them for the position will also be required. The answers will be rated by the same examiners, and from among the three candidates rated highest the selection will be made."

New York City. General Soc. of Mechanics' and Tradesmen's L. By the will of the late Charles P. Haughan the library receives a bequest of \$5000.

New York City. Washington Heights F. L. The new library building was opened with appropriate exercises on the evening of May 14. The building was erected from a fund of which \$10,000 was contributed by an anonymous friend on condition that an equal sum be raised from other sources. Among the subscribers was Andrew Carnegie, who contributed \$1700, the balance needed to complete the sum required. The building contains a large home-like children's room and an attractive reference room; the delivery-room is arranged with free access to the shelves.

N. Y. F. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations. The library has issued a well-printed little "Handbook" (64 p. S. pap., 10c.), giving an historical sketch, illustrated description, and general information regarding the organization, collections, and use of the library. The publication is a useful epitome of present characteristics and future plans of the library organization.

The May meeting of the trustees was signalized by the formal offer and acceptance of the important collection of fine etchings, lithographs, and prints owned by S. P. Avery and gathered by him during the past 30 years. Over 17,000 prints are included in this collection, which is recognized as one of the finest in existence, including a remarkably full representation of French and English etchers. In Mr. Avery's letter offering the collection, he said:

"I have for a long time intended to bequeath to some institution of my native city my collection of etchings, lithographs, photographs, and large volumes illustrated by the same arts. Circumstances have made me conclude to make this gift in my lifetime, and my investigations have convinced me that great libraries, like the British Museum, the National Library of Paris, and the New York Public Library, possess the best facilities for accommodating readers and students. Fortunately, the establishment of a Department of Prints in the New York Public Library, with a very competent curator, permits me to put my design at once into execution. I have, therefore, transferred to the Lenox Building, and now present to the New York Public Library, these works of art, the collection of which has been a labor of love for over 30 years.

"The etchings are by artists of our own era, such as Haden, Daubigny, Jacque, Whistler, Miller, Fortuny, Meryon, Flameng, Bracquemond, Israels, Eajon, and many others whose personal acquaintance enabled me to gather, in many cases, their complete productions. They are contained in 164 portfolios of various sizes,

and number by actual count 12,182 subjects and 14,931 pieces.

"Apart from these, but one of the most important and valuable items in the collection, is a unique set of—at least in this country—Turner's 'Liber Studiorum,' consisting of the very rare outline etchings, first states of the mezzotints, published and unpublished, and photographs from the original drawings, in all 226 pieces.

"The lithographs are in 23 portfolios, and number 2291 subjects and 2384 pieces. They illustrate the art of lithography from the time of its inventor, Senefelder, to the present day. The photographs, contained in seven portfolios, number 324 subjects and 335 pieces, mostly with autograph inscriptions and from paintings from recent artists with whom I have had intimate relations. The total count, amounting to 194 portfolios, with 14,800 different subjects, with 'states' of the same, numbering in all 17,557 pieces.

"The bound volumes, folio and quarto, represent 69 works in 82 volumes, illustrated with etchings, engravings, lithographs, 55 plates not counted or included in the above enumeration, and also many printed and manuscript catalogs, essays on the arts employed, portraits, biographical sketches, and other material relating to the artists represented in the collection.

"These collections are presented upon the condition that they shall always form part of the Print Department of the New York Public Library, each print to bear a stamp reading 'The S. P. Avery Collection,' and the books to have my bookplate inserted."

Pawtucket (R. I.) F. P. L. (23d rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, 1899.) Added 1911; total 18,415. Circulation 45,882 (fict. 76%). New borrowers 922; total borrowers 7423.

The work with school-children has steadily increased, and closer co-operation with the teachers is shown by a proposed plan to "issue a co-operative graded list of books for the reading of the pupils" by the superintendent of schools and the librarian. Results of the Sunday opening are most satisfactory. Art exhibitions have included not only Library Art Club collections, but also special collections of pictures loaned by private societies, Prang's reproductions of famous works of art, and sets of views prepared by several railroads. The new library building is rapidly approaching completion.

Philadelphia F. L. The beautiful residence given to the library a year ago by P. A. B. Widener, and now transformed into the Josephine Widener Memorial branch, was formally transferred to the Free Library on the evening of May 7. Simple exercises were held in the handsome building, the speech of transfer being made, for Mr. Widener, by John Thomson, of the Free Library. The gift was accepted by J. G. Rosengarten, president of the library trustees, and the address of the evening was made by Col. A. K. McClure.

In equipping the building Mr. Widener has spared no expense to make the library fittings

conform to the original interior furnishings. The south reception room has been devoted entirely to reference books, and combines a reading-room and librarian's office. The original woodwork was in ebony, and the entire fittings are of rich dark hue, in artistic contrast with a light parquet floor. Directly across the hall are the quarters assigned to the incunabula collection, obtained for Mr. Widener by Dr. Copinger. The magnificent dining-room has been transformed into a museum. In the rear the former conservatory is now a commodious lecture hall, with a seating capacity of nearly 200. The art gallery, above the conservatory, is equipped for the reception of art and architectural collections. Spacious halls adjoining are fitted up for the use of students, and every facility is afforded for quiet research in the art and architectural works. There are rooms devoted to various separate collections, and in each provision is made for easy study. Throughout the entire building the furnishings are ornate and in keeping with the splendid frescoes and wall reliefs.

Philadelphia Mercantile L. Co. (77th rpt., 1899.) Added 2062; total 185,562. Issued 68,627. "The number of books consulted and read in the building by the general public, it is estimated, amounted to at least 37,500 volumes during the entire year." Attention is given to the financial problems before the library, the expenses of operation being \$2500 to \$3000 annually in excess of the income. Three plans are suggested—increase of annual dues, the establishment of a reserve fund from money received by selling the present library site, or union with the Free Library of Philadelphia. "These propositions are still under consideration."

Quincy, Mass. Thomas Crane P. L. (Rpt., 1899.) Added 687; total not given. Issued 87,847 (fict. 36.4%; juv. fict. 24.4%; periodicals 22.2%). Receipts \$6095.57; expenses \$5939.68.

Reading (Pa.) P. L. (Rpt., 1899.) In the year ending March 31, during which the library has been conducted as a city department, it has been open for public use 296 days and has issued for home reading 54,399 volumes, with 3880 borrowers registered. 3139 volumes have been added to the shelves.

The library received a cash gift of \$2000 for the purchase of books, and 681 volumes besides came in as gifts from friends. The appropriation made for maintenance amounted to \$3500.

St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile L. A. (54th rpt., 1899.) Added 5021; total 111,401. Issued, home use 100,969 (fict., incl. juv. 65.66%); attendance 182,245. Membership 3480, showing a net gain for the year of 99. It is recommended that reference lists of the library's more valuable collections be issued.

Sedalia, Mo. Plans for the new library building, to be given by Andrew Carnegie, will be drawn by Shepley, Ruten & Coolidge, of Boston.

University of Wisconsin L. The *Wisconsin Alumni Bulletin* for April contains, p. 277-86, an interesting descriptive article, with plans and illustrations of the new library building, which is to house the State Historical Society and the library of the university.

University of Wisconsin L. The Germanic Seminary Library of the university is described by Walter M. Smith in the *Wisconsin Alumni Magazine* for May. The library was bought from a fund of \$3146, raised by private subscriptions from interested German-American citizens of Milwaukee, and tendered to the university as a New Year's gift in 1899. The collection comprises about 1700 v., many of them being rare and expensive works, relating especially to Germanic philology and literature. Numerous gifts of books and pamphlets have been made to the collection, chief among them being 268 valuable works presented by the house of F. A. Brockhaus, of Leipzig.

Washington, D. C. L. of Congress. PUTNAM, Herbert. The Library of Congress. (*In Outlook*, May 12. 65:122-4.)

A brief statement of the needs of the library and how far these may be met through the new organization provided by the Appropriations bill.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Osterhout F. L. (11th rpt., 1899; in *Library News-Letter*, May.) Added 1594; total 27,960. Issued, home use 70,778 (fict. 67.22%). New registration 831; total registration 5314. "The use of the reference department for study by adults, is constant and most satisfactory. The children swarm in, in cold or rainy weather, making the atmosphere unpleasantly close, and filling the ear with the sound of turning leaves. When it is known that a children's room is established we are confident that we will have many more adult readers. No account is kept of the number of readers, or of books read, but the increase is evident."

Wilmington (Del.) Institute L. (43d rpt.—year ending Feb. 1, 1900.) Added 3197; total 36,660. Issued, home use 175,458 (fict. 52.3%; juv. 33.5%). No account is kept of ref. use. New registration 2573; cards in use 11,042. Receipts \$14,941.90; expenses \$13,862.56. "During the year 13 volumes were lost and paid for; nine volumes were reported as missing and are believed to be lost. When one considers that the general public has free access to all the shelves, and that frequently a thousand persons enter the library in a single day, it is a matter for congratulation that the loss of books is so small."

Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L. (40th rpt.—year ending Nov. 30, '99.) Added 5156, total 125,496, of which 58,349 v. are in the circulating department. Issued, home use 106,485; ref. use 117,455; Sunday use 2076; holiday use 714. Of the home use 14,860 v. were drawn on teachers' cards and 16,938 were issued to teachers for

pupils' use, 11,594 v. were distributed through the delivery stations. New registration 2669; total registration 30,215. Receipts \$47,135.60; expenses \$40,900.99.

Mr. Green dwells upon the addition to the building and the improvements connected therewith, described by him in *L. J.*, Feb., p. 85. He says: "The librarian has plans for various improvements in mind, in fact keeps always before him the picture of a model institution, one, however, which is taking on new features constantly, and will advise changes whenever he considers it proper to ask for the necessary means for making them."

The library use for the year shows a decided increase, especially in books issued for school children. "The school use is not, of course, nearly the whole use of the library by children, for in addition to their very large use of books in making investigations in the library building, great numbers use their parents' cards in getting books to take home, and 7454 volumes (an increase of 2558 volumes over the previous year) were given out last year on blue cards, which are given out to children under 15 whose parents or teachers desire them to have home privileges."

Four art exhibitions have been held, and good use has been made of the library's collection of art material.

Youngstown, O. Reuben McMillan F. P. L. (Rpt.—year ending April 30, 1900.) Added 1567; total 14,913. Issued, home use 67,450 (fict. 57.399). New registration 645; total membership 5366.

"We now have 45 sets of supplementary readers which have been in use all the year, 20 sets of books for home circulation from the school room, 25 volumes in a set, which are given out by the teachers to the children or used in the school room for reference. This year's good record shows 1956 books issued to 904 pupils."

FOREIGN.

Glasgow, Scotland. On April 24 the corporation of Glasgow at a special meeting voted to consider the establishment of a system of free libraries in accordance with a scheme drawn up by Mr. F. T. Barrett. The details of the matter were referred to a libraries committee for further consideration. The repeated failures of previous efforts made to induce Glasgow to establish a free library under the acts makes the action of the corporation especially gratifying.

MARGOLIOUTH, G. The romance of a library. (*In Leisure Hour*, April, 1900. p. 543-550.) il.

An account of the Syriac library of the convent of St. Mary Deipara, Egypt. This most interesting Syriac collection is now in the British Museum, the Vatican Library, and the National libraries in St. Petersburg and Berlin. The great bulk of the collection is in the British Museum.

Librarians.

CODDINGTON, Miss Hester, for a number of years head cataloger in the library of the University of Wisconsin, has resigned to accept a position in the Catalogue Division of the Library of Congress.

DUNCAN, William H., jr., librarian of the Flatbush branch of the Brooklyn Library (Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1900), has been appointed librarian of the University Club Library, New York City.

ELY, Miss Sarah E., for 30 years librarian of the Holyoke (Mass.) Public Library, resigned that position early in May.

HOOVER, Miss Anna, has been appointed librarian of the Galesburg (Ill.) Public Library, with which she has been connected for many years.

LEIPZIGER, Miss Pauline, librarian of the Aguilar Library, New York, has been appointed a delegate to the series of international congresses to be held in connection with the Paris Exposition. She will speak on the subject "Librarians."

PLUMMER, Miss Mary W., will present the subject "Bibliography" at one of the series of international congresses in connection with the Paris Exposition, to which she has been appointed a delegate.

SCHWARTZ, Jacob, has resigned his position as librarian of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of New York City, with which he has been identified for over 30 years.

Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON BOOK CO. *Bulletin of Bibliography* for April contains a reading list of magazine articles on the Paris Exposition, by Frederika Wendt; and the second part of Miss Thompson's "Children's reading list on art and artists."

The BUFFALO P. L. has issued a 16-page author list of the Polish books contained in the library (about 400 titles).

The CARNEGIE L. (*Pittsburgh*) *Bulletin* for May devotes its "contemporary biography" reading lists to scientists, explorers, and inventors.

THE monthly "Catalogue of U.S. public documents" issued by the Superintendent of Documents has been improved since the first of the year by the addition of the cumulative feature to the index appended to each number. In the March number, just issued, the index covers the first three months of the year, filling 23 double-column pages.

LAW SOCIETY OF UPPER CANADA L., *Toronto*. Subject index to the books in the library;

comp. by William George Eakins. Toronto, Law Society, 1900. 6+396 p. O.

Mr. Eakins states that the index is "designed to be a guide to the contents of the library other than the reports and statutes," and that entry has been, sometimes made under "as many as from 10 to 15 subject-heads." This plan seems to have been carried too far in some cases, and the lack of full cross-references is also to be noted—thus we have the two headings "Argot and Slang" and "Slang," under each of which appears a book not listed under the related heading, while there are no connecting references. Again, under "Explorations" appears Back's "Arctic narrative," 1833-5, which is not found under "Arctic exploration," no cross-references being made to either heading. Entries are arranged chronologically under subjects, date and place of publication being noted. Titles have been much abbreviated, and authors' surnames only are given. The index will undoubtedly be useful in its field, but its usefulness and general appearance might have been much improved by a more systematic method of work.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for May contains a first instalment of a valuable classed list of "Works relating to the state of New York" in the library.

The PATERSON (*N. J.*) P. L. *Bulletin*, which has resumed publication after some months of suspension, contains in its May number a special classed reading list on "South Africa and the war."

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for May devotes its five reading lists to astronomical subjects in connection with the solar eclipse of May 28.

SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) CITY L. ASSOC. The David Ames Wells Economic Library. [Springfield, 1900.] 32 p. sq. D.

A catalog of the valuable economic collection of the late David A. Wells, given to the Springfield library in Jan., 1899, by his son, David D. Wells. It includes only bound volumes, listing works by individuals, and documents of cities, states, and various national governments in separate divisions. A fuller catalog, including pamphlets now unbound, will be later issued.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. Library bulletin, May, 1900. Accessions to the department library, Jan.-March, 1900. 26 p. [printed on one side.] O.

CHANGED TITLES.

"Invisible light," by G. Woodward Warder (Dillingham, 1900), was originally published (Ogilvie, 1898) under the title "A new cosmogony."—*Authority of publisher*.

"Castle and manor," a novel by the late St. George Mivart, recently issued under the author's name, was originally published anonymously with the title "Henry Standon."—*Athenaeum*.

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by the Library of Congress, Catalogue Division.

- Blatchley, Willis Stanley (Gleanings from nature);
 Bolton, Frederick Elmer (The secondary school system of Germany);
 Colton, Buel Preston (Physiology illustrated by experiment . . .);
 Compton, Charles Andrew (Consistency of the normal metes and bounds of our republic);
 Cox, Thomas Edward, *comp.* (Biblical treasury of the catechism);
 Crockett, Montgomery Adams (Gynecology);
 Dunnell, Mark Boothby (Minnesota pleading);
 Hall, Thomas Cuming (The social meaning of modern religious movements in England);
 Hamlin, Benjamin Baird (The voice out of the clouds);
 Hopkins, Loren Lewis (The coming trust);
 Jacobs, William Clayton (The practical speller for higher grades);
 Jones, Walter Liman (Truths and alleged errors of the Bible);
 Lancaster, Edward Moulton (A manual of English history . . .);
 Lawrence, Fred Wallace (Transmission);
 Leonard, Delavan Lavant (Missionary annals of the nineteenth century);
 Little, Charles Eugene (Cyclopedia of classified dates . . .);
 Lyman, Elmer Adelbert, and Goddard, Edwin Charles (Plane trigonometry);
 Miller, Frank Jay (Compendium of patent laws and regulations);
 Minton, Maurice Meyer (Country lanes and city pavements . . .);
 Morrow, Abbie Clemens, *ed.* (The work of faith through George Müller);
 Neet, George Wallace (Studies in pedagogy);
 Nelson, Olof Nickolaus, *ed.* (History of the Scandinavians and successful Scandinavians in the United States);
 Osborn, Solomon Oliver (The analysis of the retail trade);
 Petcolas, Alfred Brown, *ed.* (Index-digest and notes to all civil cases contained in the Texas reports since 1894);
 Schade, Augustus Ernst (The philosophy of history);
 Smith, Heman Conoman (True succession in church presidency of the church of Jesus Christ of latter day saints);
 Tarbell, Ida Minerva (The life of Abraham Lincoln);
 Titherington, Richard Handfield (A history of the Spanish-American war).

Bibliography.

- CANADA. Wrong, George M., and Langton, H. H. Review of historical publications relating to Canada. Vol. 4: Publications of the year 1899. Toronto, William Briggs, 1900. 12+229 p. 8°. \$1; \$1.50.
 CHOPIN. Huneker, J. Chopin, the man and

his music. N. Y., Scribner, 1900. 8+415 p. D. \$1.25.

Includes a six-page bibliography.

EDUCATION. Bolton, F. E. Secondary school system of Germany. N. Y., Appleton, 1900. 10+398 p. D. (Internat. education ser., no. 47.) \$1.50.

Contains a six-page bibliography.

EYE. Baudry, S. M. Injuries to the eye in their medico-legal aspects. Phila., F. A. Davis Co., 1900. 10+161 p. D. net, \$1.

Includes a nine-page bibliography.

TRAVEL. A summer in England; with a continental supplement: handbook for American women. Bost., Woman's Rest Tour Assoc., 1900. 90 p. obl. S. pap., 50 c.

Contains two bibliographies, six pages and 16 pages, respectively.

UNEMPLOYED. Denjean, Georges. L'assurance contre le chômage. Paris, Guillaumin, 1899. 37+365 p. 8°. (Questions sociales.)

A bibliography covers p. v-xxxvii and includes 1. Documents officiels; 2. Rapports de sociétés et associations; 3. Ouvrages généraux; 4. Ouvrages spéciaux; 5. Journaux et revues.

Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

The following are from the "Catalogue of titles of books," etc., issued from the office of the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress.

- Dick Donovan, pseud. of J. E. Muddock, "The man from Manchester" (23:80, Ap. 12.)
 Mme. la Marquise de Fontenoy, pseud. of Marguerite Cunliffe Owen, "William II., Germany; Francis Joseph, Austria-Hungary." (23:80, Ap. 12.)
 Old, old bachelor, pseud. of Nathan Stone Reed Beal, "Diamond leaves from the lives of the Diamond family" (22:822 Mr. 22.)
 Madam Pinxit, pseud. of Mary T. Fitch, "Man under the microscope." (23:154, Ap. 19.)
 Owen Roe, pseud. of Andrew F. Browne, "A celebrated case, Bishop of Belleville, Ill., against St. Patrick's Parish." (22:823, Mr. 22.)
 "Complete course in suggestive therapeutics in ten lessons," is by W. E. Harlow and J. W. Finder. (22:827, Mr. 22.)
 "Condensers: lectures and articles, reprinted from *Power*," is by Frederick R. Low. (23:156, Ap. 19.)
 "Prospectus of the Ohio Speech Institute, being a treatise on the nature of stammering," is by Thomas Beattie. (22:822, Mr. 22.)
 "Robert R. McBurney: a memorial, 1837-'98," is ed. by Richard C. Morse. (23:156, Ap. 19.)
 "The saloon a nuisance and license unconstitutional," is by James Renwick Dill. (23:154, Ap. 19.)
 "Word and work of David J. Lewis," is comp. by Ella H. Lewis. (23:155, Ap. 19.)

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